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***SPE® ISSUES CALL FOR ACCE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS;
MICH. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. RETURNS AS SPONSOR***

TROY (DETROIT), MICH. – The organizing committee for the **SPE® Automotive Composites Conference & Exhibition (SPE ACCE)** today issued its annual call for student scholarship applications and announced that **Michigan Economic Development Corp.** (MEDC, Lansing, Mich.) is returning as sponsor of two \$2,000 USD historic SPE ACCE graduate scholarships (given annually since 2007) plus a \$2,000 USD scholarship for an undergraduate or graduate student enrolled in a Michigan college/university (first given in 2013). Applications for all three scholarships for the 2015-2016 academic year are due **July 20, 2015** and forms can be found at <http://speautomotive.com/comp.htm>. Winners will be selected from a pool of qualified applicants and announced in early August 2014 before this year's SPE ACCE show.

“The State of Michigan is committed to ensuring that our auto industry has the pipeline of talent it will need for the future,” said Kevin Kerrigan, MEDC’s senior vice president, Automotive Office. “Michigan’s future as the global leader in automotive and manufacturing innovation and new technologies depends on engineering talent and SPE’s Automotive Composites Conference and Exhibition focuses on both the current and future needs of Michigan’s most significant industry. Every dollar that we invest in these engineering scholarships is an investment in Michigan’s success in the future.”

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About the MEDC

The Michigan Economic Development Corp. (MEDC) serves as the state's marketing arm and lead agency for business growth, jobs, and opportunity with a focus on helping grow Michigan's economy. For more on the MEDC, its initiatives, visit: <http://www.michiganbusiness.org>. For Pure Michigan travel news, updates, and information, visit <http://www.michigan.org/>.

About the SPE ACCE

Held annually in suburban Detroit, the ACCE draws over 900 speakers, exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees and provides an environment dedicated solely to discussion and networking about advances in transportation composites. Its global appeal is evident in the diversity of exhibitors, speakers, and attendees who come to the conference from Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia / Pacific as well as North America. Fully one-third of attendees indicate they work for automotive and light truck, agriculture, truck & bus, or aviation OEMs, and another 25% represent tier suppliers. Attendees also work for composite materials, processing equipment, additives, or reinforcement suppliers; trade associations, consultants, university and government labs; media; and investment bankers. The show has been jointly sponsored by the SPE Automotive and Composites Divisions since 2001. This year's show will be held **September 9-11, 2015** at **The Diamond Banquet & Conference Center at the Suburban Collection Showplace**, 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI 48374. For more information about the SPE ACCE, see <http://speautomotive.com/comp.htm>, or <http://specomposites.com>.

The mission of SPE is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics. SPE's Automotive and Composites Divisions work to advance plastics and plastic-based composites technologies worldwide and to educate industry, academia, and the public about these advances. Both divisions are dedicated to educating, promoting, recognizing, and communicating technical accomplishments for all phases of plastics and plastic-based composite developments, including materials, processing, equipment, tooling, design and testing, and application development. For more information on the Society of Plastics Engineers or other SPE events, see www.4spe.org.

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Attention Editors: High-resolution digital photography available upon request.