

Polymer Valley News



The Newsletter of the Akron Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers
Our 66th Year of Education and Service to the Plastics Industry

~ Next Session ~

Tuesday, February 13, 2024
5:00 p.m.

Virtual Session

Virtual Meeting Information

Members	\$10
Non-members	\$20

[Click here to register and pay](#)

Sustainability

Conor Carlin, Managing Director of ILLIG North America LP

Plastics and sustainability: is this a contradiction in terms? Plastics are either the devil incarnate, the source of humanity's woes, an environmental scourge... or they are miracle materials, life-saving materials, inert, GHG-saving materials. We will explore this debate and attempt to find some common ground across competing narratives, impersonal algorithms, impending legislation and material science.

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Speaker Biography

Conor Carlin is the Managing Director of ILLIG North America LP, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ILLIG Maschinenbau GmbH & Co. KG., a Germany-based designer and manufacturer of thermoforming, tooling, and packaging systems. Carlin has 20 years of international experience in packaging machinery, tooling, and advanced materials.

Carlin also serves as President of the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) and is a contributing member of the Institute of Packaging Professionals (IOPP). In 2020 he was elected as the first VP of Sustainability for SPE and edits publications for their Thermoforming and Recycling Divisions.

Carlin has delivered papers and contributed articles on plastics and sustainability for international industry press in the US, Europe, and Asia. He is the co-author of “Plastics & Sustainability: Grey is the New Green” published by Scrivener/Wiley. Carlin Holds a BA from Boston University (Boston, MA) and an MBA from the FW Olin Graduate School of Business at Babson College (Wellesley, MA). He lives in the Greater Boston area with his wife and three children.

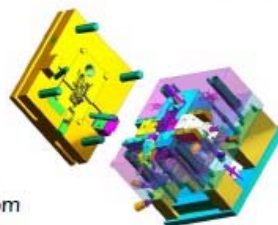
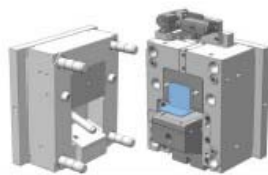


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*Picture your ad here
And also on www.akronspe.org*

**The Akron Section is in
need of New Board Members.**

**Please consider becoming a
Board Member
to help support your Section.**

**Contact anyone currently
on the board
if you are interested.**

Thank You!

*Join us for this season's advertising
– see page 16 for the order form*

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**The Akron SPE Section is
happy to post local job
openings in the plastics
industry for 90 days for any
member.**

**Please contact a board
member if you are
interested in posting.**

**For current postings, visit
<http://www.akronspe.org/job-posting>**



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Membership Report

The Akron Section currently has 170 members.

We are always welcoming new members – invite someone to a meeting!

SPE National

Please click the following areas of interest:

Board Meeting Dates

Aug 28, 2023	Jan 8, 2024
Sept None	Feb 5
Oct 2	March 4
Nov 6	April 1
Dec 4	May 6

[Contacts at National](#)

[Member Benefits](#)

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[Akron Section](#)





VINYLTEC®

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Thermoplastic Elastomers Conference



Compound Interest: TPEs in a Circular Economy

October 1-3, 2024 *

Akron, OH

Presented by the Thermoplastics Elastomers Technical Interest Group and SPE Akron Section

Call For Papers

The TPE TIG and Akron Section of SPE invite the submission of abstracts for presentation at the 16th TPE TopCon 2024.

Please submit presentation title, abstract, author/presenter and affiliation to:

Homaira Naseem, homaira.naseem@orbia.com, (508)-574-4684

Aparajita Bhattacharya, Aparajita.Bhattacharya@kraton.com, (281)-389-3057

Bill Blasius, wgblassius@gmail.com, (774)-545-0990

Sessions exploring sustainability, recycling, bio content, composting, part consolidation, efficient design, minimizing machine energy, material formulation and regulatory trends.



Abstract Deadline: March 30, 2024

Completed Presentation Due: August 30, 2024



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Programs for 2023/24

- Sep. 11 **Global Economic Factors Now Favor US Plastic Product Mfg over China-Based Operations**
Greg Kozera, Shale Crescent USA
-- *Hilton Inn Fairlawn - Akron* *

- Oct. **Vinyltec**
10-12 Positioning Vinyl for Tomorrow
-- *Hilton Inn Fairlawn - Akron* *

- Nov. **Compounding Conference**
15-16 -- *Huntington Convention Center - Cleveland* *

- Dec. No gathering – Happy Holidays!

- Jan. 23 **ACCESS – EV Battery Recycling**
Jing Lyon, BRITE Energy Innovators
R.Shea Brewery -- Akron *

- Feb. 13 **Sustainability - Webinar**
Conor Carlin
-- *Virtual - Cleveland* *

- Mar. 11 **Vinyl Institute**
Dom Dicaria
Blue Canyon -- Akron *

- Mar. 12 **ACCESS-Stem event**
University of Akron -- Akron *

- Mar. 13 **ACCESS / ACS / Akron Section Solving Challenges in the EV Applications in Coatings and Adhesive Materials**
Dr. Emmanuel Pitia
R.Shea Brewery -- Akron *

- Apr. TBA **Lighter than Air Research Tour**
-- *TBA - Cleveland* *

- May 20 **Akron Section Awards Night**
Brian Anderson
Raintree -- Akron *

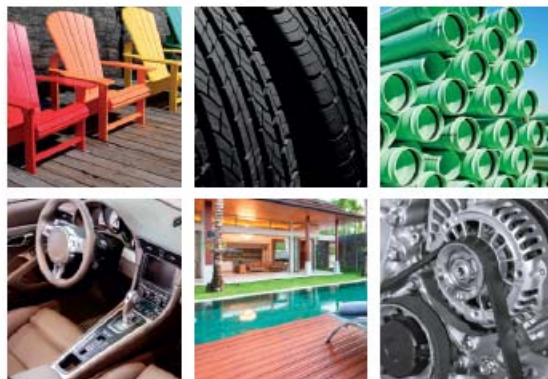


SPE Communities, formerly The Chain, is where industry professionals can participate in peer-to-peer conversations and engage in technical and non-technical discussions. Communities participants can subscribe to posts, see who else is online, receive discussion notifications, connect directly to each other via direct messaging and more. Communities are an ideal way to **stay connected with your peers** to collaborate, share advice, find solutions, and build relationships.

Tech Talk

This is where professionals from around the world discuss the latest technical issues and innovations in range of marketplaces. Put the knowledge and expertise of thousands of plastics professionals to work for you. Ask a question. Or provide an answer. [Click here.](#)

For technical polymer questions please use the SPE International forum “Tech Talk”
For local questions please contact the officers at akronspe1@gmail.com



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Board Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2024

Call to Order: In person at PEAC. Meeting called to order at 5:30PM.

Present: Dan Jones, David Schultz, Larry Stanek, Keith Pelfrey, Fred Carter and John Fellenstein

Online: Tony Dean, Joe Mattingly and Arsalaan Pathan

Absent: Kevin Malpass, Sahil Gupta, Dakota Spencer, Sherri Makar Hart and Critt Ohlemacher

Meeting hosted by President Dan Jones.

Sherri Hart is new Councilor.

David Schultz to contact Sahil Gupta.

November 6 minutes amended and approved as written to include on-line money voting. Sherri brought up opportunity to participate in FRS CLC Robotics Program.

Technical Program 2023/24—David Schultz / Larry Stanek

January 23 - Joint meeting ACCESS- R Shea's - EV Battery – Recycling- Carla McBain/ Fred Carter- ACCESS lead with ACS- Akron.

Feb 13 plan set Conor Carlin Sustainability in Manufacturing- Virtual- Zoom /Teams.

March 11- Vinyl Institute- Dom DiCaria- Blue Cayon- Twinsburg.

March 12- ACCESS- STEM event U of Akron.

March 13- Joint ACCESS meeting being developed EV adhesives and coatings R Shea's.

April- Dan Jones reports Lighter than Air Research- Tour ?? Cleve Tour.

May- 20- Awards Banquet- Raintree- target

June- wrap up.

Note ANTEC March 4-7 St Louis, MO

NPE- Orlando, Fla- May5-8

Need to develop a list and targets for Program Committee to address for next year's program

Akron- Oct 1-3 TPE TOPCON 2024

Cleve- Oct 16-17 Additive Mfging-set

Lighter Than Air Reseach- Tour

Alterra Energy/Vadxx new facility tour- Andy Oster contact

Ravago tour

Americhem Tour- Ryan King

Looking into Networking meeting with Job Coaches

Joint meeting with Sections- Ohio and Pa areas

Ideas/ suggestions??

House—Larry Stanek / Dakota Spencer

Larry informed set for Hilton- Oct Conf- TPE TOPCON 2024

Working to line up Raintree – Awards Banquet.

Board Meeting Minutes – 01/08/2024

Membership—Kevin Malpass

Sherri Hart reports for Kevin member number now at 170. Sherri has resent list past 2-3 years of members that did NOT renew for Task Group review and to decide how to proceed re contact dropped/expired to make calls and find out details plus will ask for in person follow up.

May consider dropping \$10 fee to align with ASPE?

Sherri to determine best way to capture students with Akron SPE.

New members from Vinyltec?

Need to develop a Social media based marketing campaign- Tony and Sherri plus Jenny- out reach and keep and grow membership.

Thoughts Video, Resources, Networking out to FB, Linked IN, website and newsletter.

Treasurer—Fred Carter

Treasurer's report updated to end of December. Finances in good shape.

Changes complete to minimum amount- needed in checking

No need to keep Quicken- large price increase

On line votes taken to support- ACESS Joint Jan 23 meeting- \$200.00 and Celebration of STEM- March 12- ACESS -\$200.00

Vote taken to approve funding Science Fairs- ASPE STEM-\$150.00 and District 5- \$150.00 money to be sent to Dan Jones for Gift cards or money for MS and HS winners

Check to be sent from SPE to Morgan Stanley for NEW!! Robert Wegelin Legacy Scholarship

Student Chapter—Arsalaan Pathan

Current student Chapter Advisor is Prof Weinan Xu.

PESO will not be present at ANTEC but has interest to attend Polyolefin Conf- Houston, Tx in Feb- details to be sent for support.

ASPE- BOD asked for added involvement ideas added mentorship and suggestions for added involvement.

Councilor—Sherri Makar Hart

No new business to report. Voting took place for Intl candidates.

Public Interest / Advertising—Tony Dean

Akron Page of SPE Int'l Website updated with latest meeting announcements and newsletters.

Six ads for 2023-2024 year placed so far.

Tony Dean contact Sandra Pejic of Thermo Fisher Scientific, who was at the Poster Session on April 10 about advertising with the Akron SPE and Sponsoring/Exhibiting.

New advertiser for this year Molded Marketing.

Tony continues to make sure Intl ASPE site is up-to-date.

Newsletter—Sherri Makar Hart

January newsletter has been sent out.

Website / Social Media—Sherri Makar Hart

Need updates for Social media- Linked In and FB.

Board Meeting Minutes – 01/08/2024

Education Committee—John Fellenstein

STEM Science Fair- Jan 27 Ellet Learning Center. District 5- U of Akron- March 16. Need judges.

Need to inform John of any new scholarship potential.

Joe informs he made a key Goodyear contact he will align for future contact on all STEM and student oriented events.

Possibility of more scholarships to qualified students.

John aligning Scholarship students to attend Awards plus align NEW Robert Wegelin Legacy Scholarship.

John now has some new networks to approach for students- Undergraduate Polymer class and HS Explorer programs and Goodyear candidates.

Fred to share his network working with HS Explorers.

Education Foundation—Joe Mattingly

Joe reports that Funds are doing well. Good balance currently with gains.

Awards—Keith Pelfrey

Keith asked BOD to please review options for this year Hall of Honor, Lifetime and added Awards plus Zekan.

KEY activity for end of 2023-24 Year.

Keynote speaker- potential Brian Anderson- Greater Akron Chamber- D Schultz to handle.

Growth Committee—Kevin Malpass

BOD discussed we need to align added Co-Chair to Committee to align ideas for growth. New marketing campaign aligned in Membership Committee can be a great start.

TOPCON 2024—David Schultz

TPE Committee into third meeting Jan. A Website is up and Live. Call for Papers out. Need Sponsors and Exhibitors.

ACCESS Update—David Schultz

ACCESS will have 2 Joint meetings this year

Jan 23- ACCESS/SPE/ ACS and IEEE

March 13- ACCESS/ACS both at R Sheas

PayPal available for events - added Dietary restrictions plus Company encourage to sign up/pay prior to meetings.

Old Business

Dave updated location of ASPE Equipment

Laptop- Dan Jones holding currently

Projector- new- Dan, old Joe

Screen – new and old U of Akron

John will remain at AGPA- til June 30.

New Business

Sheri Makar Hart inquired about funding for robotics program. Joe Mattingly says there has to be plastics or polymer content. Sherri to investigate further.

Joe informs he made new contacts at Goodyear and will align with ASPE/ACCESS for STEM events and Scholarships.

GAC- Greater Akron Chamber reports that they received a Tech Hub grant and includes Cleve centric plastics process training need company support.

Meeting Adjourned. Next meeting will take place February 5, 2024. Dan Jones/John will advise parking details.

Akron Section Past Presidents

*63 years of
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1960-1961 Milan Krajcik
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1962-1963 Dickson L. Stoker, III
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1965-1966 John R. Russell
1966-1967 Clyde H. Jones
1967-1968 Alan Corry, Jr.
1968-1969 Bernard M. Saffian
1969-1970 Harold R. Schick
1970-1971 Robert G. Hills
1971-1972 John J. Satterfield
1972-1973 Alexis M. Gross
1973-1974 Francis J. Maurer
1974-1975 Leverett A. Anderson, Jr.
1975-1976 Robert M. Hershey
1976-1977 Richard L. Fleshman
1977-1978 David Curtis
1978-1979 John A. Zelek, Jr.
1979-1980 Gerald W. Whitnable
1980-1981 Kathleen N. Bechter
1981-1982 Victor E. Giuffrida
1982-1983 James Steiner
1983-1984 Robert G. Hills
1984-1985 Anthony F. Dean, Jr.
1985-1986 Gene Buser
1986-1987 Harry J. Barth
1987-1988 Judith A. Fallon
1988-1989 William E. Tosko
1989-1990 Robert C. Wegelin
1990-1991 Geraldine R. Stromquist

1991-1992 Spencer Kreiser
1992-1993 Robert C. Wegelin
1993-1994 Anthony F. Dean, Jr.
1994-1995 Wayne Decamp
1995-1996 Melanie Stewart
1996-1997 Kevin Hershfield
1997-1998 David Schultz
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1999-2000 Gary Taylor
2000-2001 Kevin Malpass
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2002-2003 Joseph E. Pfeiffer
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2016-2017 Robert Weiler
2017-2018 Tom McQuaide
2018-2019 Nicole Fraifogl
2019-2020 Larry Stanek
2020-2021 Larry Stanek
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Open	President/Chair-elect,	Sherri Makar Hart <i>Case Analytical Laboratories</i> 330-634-3452 T contact@caseanalytical.com	Director, Newsletter, Councilor
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Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers Educational Foundation



06-22

The Akron Society of Plastics Engineers Educational Foundation operates exclusively for the benefit of and to carry out the purposes of the Akron Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers, which is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics by making educational scholarship grants to deserving students in the field of plastics engineering and related subjects. The Organization is supported primarily by contributions from the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers, the Society's individual members and corporations like yours affiliated with the polymer industry.

Since the inception in 1983, the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers Educational Foundation has grown to its current position through the hard work of many volunteers and the generosity of the local business community. Over the nearly forty years that the foundation has been in existence, it has provided over 300 scholarships to young men and women totaling in excess of \$441,000 to assist them in furthering their careers in the polymer industry.

Our goal is to continue to grow the assets of the Foundation in order to increase the number of scholarships awarded, as well as the size of the awards, and to do so in perpetuity. In doing this, we hope to be able to contribute to the supply of well-trained individuals to support the growth of the polymer industry in the Northeast Ohio area today and well into the future.

When the Foundation began its fund raising activities in 1983, we offered those companies who contributed a substantial donation, a perpetual annual scholarship in their name. To date we have four named scholarships, Newell/Rubbermaid, Goodyear, Ken Sharp Memorial and Jim Steiner Memorial scholarships. We are asking your company to help with the growth of well-trained individuals in the local polymer industry. Please print this page, fill out the information and mail it to David Schultz, 610 Berkshire Drive, Medina, Ohio 44256.

Akron SPE Scholarship Donation Commitment

- \$50,000 lump sum
- \$10,000/yr. next 5 yrs.
- \$6,250/yr. next 8 yrs.
- Other: _____

Company name: _____

Contact person: _____

Ph. # or email: _____

Our named scholarship donors are recognized at the annual Awards Night of the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers. We invite you to present your tax deductible donation at our Awards Night held in May each year.

We look forward to your support of this very worthwhile cause by your fine company. Please contact me at (330) 283-5721 with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
David Schultz, Foundation Chair
Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers, Educational Foundation



Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers
Tony Dean, Advertising Manager - 330-929-9916

Sponsorships

Insertion Order 2023-24

Polymer Valley News: Akron Section SPE Newsletter - <http://www.akronspe.org>

This is the 65th year of the Akron SPE Section and rates are for entire season, September 2023 – Summer 2024. **Payable in Advance. Please let me know if you need an invoice.**

Ad format must be electronic (but we can scan your original artwork). File size should be limited based on the size of the ad ordered. Acceptable formats are .bmp, .pcx, .jpg, .tif, .gif, or MS PowerPoint or Word (if you have any issues with format, please email us and we can provide assistance). **Color is Free! Color helps your ad stand out!** All ads included in newsletter, email blast (logo) and web site, and all contain a hotlink to your company website.

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