



BUILDING & INFRASTRUCTURE

JANUARY 2019

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Hello and welcome to the Winter edition of your Building and Infrastructure Division Newsletter and my first as your Division Chair. I've been active in the Society for over 30 years and a member of the Building and Infrastructure Board of Directors for the past several years. I look forward to working with our Board members and SPE Leadership to build and expand our Division.

Since transitioning from a Special Interest Group (SIG) to a Division in Formation (DIF), we've exceeded the threshold membership required to move into full Division status. While hitting that milestone was a significant achievement for us, our goal is to continue to grow our membership and surpass pre-transition levels; for this we ask for your help. As you may or may not know, SIG memberships don't automatically transition to DIF memberships; members must actually notify SPE of their intention to join the Division in Formation. That can be done in one of several ways; online, with a simple call to SPE Headquarters or as part of your annual membership renewal. Spread the word and urge you colleagues or friends that were members of the Special Interest Group to take the steps necessary to join the Building and Infrastructure Division today.

It's hard to believe that we're into the new year and our biggest event for 2019, ANTEC is just a couple of months away. The conference will be held in Detroit at the Marriott Renaissance Center, March 18th through the 21st. The ANTEC will take on a new format this year, with the traditional technical program running Monday morning through mid-day Wednesday followed by several Megatrend sessions, Wednesday afternoon and all-day Thursday. Topics will include, Packaging, Transportation, Building and Construction and Sustainability.

Writing about the upcoming ANTEC made me reminisce about all of the great conferences I've been fortunate enough to attend and how they've changed over the years. I remember the day when the ANTEC proceedings were published in books, carrying them around the conference was no easy feat. In the mid-2000s, Boston, I believe; the conference content was packaged on CDs, that certainly lightened the load. The ANTEC technical content is now provided to attendees via the Cloud. There's nothing to carry, but when you get back home you can download the entire conference proceedings onto your computer. Isn't technology great? The digital revolution has made light work of our technical papers, but one thing remains a constant, ANTEC is a heavyweight event for the SPE and one that is well worth attending. I hope to see you in Detroit.

Lastly, the ultimate success of the SPE and the Building and Infrastructure Division depends on its membership. We invite you to reach out to us on our web page or on social media (e.g. LinkedIn), we need to hear from you in order to better service your needs.

Until next time, best regards.

Frank J. Popola
Chair, Building and Infrastructure Division
The Society of Plastics Engineers



ANTEC® 2019

Detroit, MI - March 18-21, 2019
CO-HOSTED BY SPE DETROIT

THE CONFERENCE FOR BUSINESS **PLASTICS PROFESSIONALS**

ANTEC® 2019 INSPIRE

420+ technical and business papers, spanning Monday thru Wednesday midday, you will be able to enjoy the traditional ANTEC® that you know and love –complete with networking and student events and exhibitor receptions. [LEARN MORE.](#)

ANTEC® 2019 INSIGHT-NEW THIS YEAR!

Running from Wednesday midday and all-day Thursday with sessions focused on the latest trends in Packaging, Building & Construction, and Transportation you will get face-to-face interaction with expert representatives from the largest industry segments. Sustainability is woven throughout the entire program. Highlights include panel discussions on Additive Manufacturing, Lighting as a Design Feature, and Nanotech/Graphene. INSIGHT will focus on the big picture – and the biggest questions being asked in the plastics community today. [LEARN MORE.](#)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

SPE is comprised of 22,500+ members, all from diverse backgrounds and careers – ANTEC® is no different. Managers, engineers, R&D scientists, technicians, sales & marketing associates, executives, academics and students are all invited to enhance their career in plastics through this networking and knowledge sharing event.



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING?

The SPE, Building and Infrastructure Division has more than 100 members representing a wide variety of companies and academic institutions. It is our mission to continue to grow the Division and become a bigger, stronger and more diverse group. We will act as a conduit for the exchange of information and as a resource for Society members to increase the understanding of plastic building materials through our newsletter, conferences, workshops and industry contacts facilitated through a focused group effort within SPE. These activities are designed to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information related to the latest applications and best practices for plastics in building and infrastructure applications for residential and commercial projects. We are currently looking for a couple of new Board members to help with the planning and execution of various Division activities, such as ANTEC®, fundraising and community events. The Board of Directors meet face-to-face at ANTEC® every year, and through monthly teleconference meetings. Incoming Board members and their employers are asked for a three-year commitment to the Division. In return, we provide excellent networking opportunities and a word of acknowledgement and appreciation for your company in one of our future newsletters. If you are interested in applying, please contact Mark Barger at mabarger@dow.com.

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