

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

SPE® Honors FreedomCAR & Fuel Partnership for Leadership in Developing Technologies for Next-Generation Vehicles



JOSEPH A. CARPENTER, JR.



CHARLES DAVID WARREN



LIBBY BERGER

The FreedomCAR and Fuel Partnership (FC&FP) tonight will receive SPE's *Executive Leadership Team Award*, which recognizes the group's leadership in sponsoring research on 'leapfrog' technologies in plastics and composites for automotive applications and its work helping develop technologies for the next generation of vehicle transportation. Key areas of research by the FC&FP include: **Lightweight Structures / Low-Cost Carbon Fiber; Lithium-Ion (Li-ion) Batteries; and Hydrogen Fuel-Cell Vehicles (FCVs).**

Suzanne Cole, president, Cole & Associates and past chair of the SPE Automotive Division, who is presenting the award this evening, said "The U.S. government is committed to promoting the transformation of the transportation sector via development of lightweight, efficient and sustainable vehicles and an infrastructure to support them. Through USCAR, the Detroit automakers are advancing collaborative automotive research, which includes polymer composites technology, for future vehicle architectures. We, on the SPE Automotive Division Board of Directors, believe that plastics and composite materials will be key enablers for the development of safe and sustainable transportation, and we applaud the efforts of the FC&FP for ushering in polymer-based technologies for advanced-propulsion systems and lightweight, durable, safe vehicle structures."

Maria Ciliberti, Global Automotive director, Ticona, and the *SPE Automotive Innovation Awards* chair for 2008 added, "We selected FC&FP as the recipient of our 2008 *Executive Leadership Team Award*, for the group's vision in making plastics and composites top research priorities within the materials arena. From lightweight, durable, sustainable materials for clean-sheet vehicle architectures to membrane separators for advanced batteries, and plastics for building the hydrogen infrastructure needed for a safe and convenient fuel-delivery system, plastics and polymer composites have already proven to be enabling technologies for alternative powertrains, ranging from gas-electric hybrids to advanced battery and hydrogen vehicle technologies."

The honor will be accepted by a team representing the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the United States Council for Automotive Research LLC (USCAR), through which the three U.S. automakers – Chrysler LLC, Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp. – participate in the FC&FP. Those named on the award include:

JOSEPH A. CARPENTER, JR., Technology Development manager for the U.S. DOE's Lightweighting Materials effort, part of the FreedomCAR and Fuels Partnership;

TEAM AWARD

CHARLES DAVID (DAVE) WARREN, program manager - Transportation Composites at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and field technical manager - Composites in the Automotive Lightweighting Materials effort, a part of the FreedomCAR Initiative of the DOE's Office of Vehicle Technologies;

LIBBY BERGER, staff researcher – Materials & Processes Laboratory, R&D Center, General Motors Corp. and a member of the Automotive Composites Consortium's (ACC's) Processing Group, and Materials Group, for which she is a past chair;

DAN HOUSTON, technical specialist, Ford Motor Co. and chair - USCAR ACC's Materials Work Group; and

KHALED SHAHWAN, engineering specialist – Experimental & Computational Mechanics Department, Scientific Laboratories, Chrysler LLC and chair - USCAR ACC's Composites Energy Management Group.

Accepting the award on behalf of USCAR will be Chrysler's FreedomCAR director and member of the USCAR Leadership Group, ANN SCHLENKER, Chrysler LLC, director of Advanced Vehicle Engineering & Alliances. Accepting the Award on behalf of the Department of Energy is PATRICK DAVIS, acting program manager, Vehicle Technologies, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, U.S. DOE.

Continues Cole, "A national energy portfolio that includes significant use of hybrid powertrains, advanced battery technology including plug-in hybrids, hydrogen fuel, and fuel-cell applications will make lasting contributions to America's future mobility needs and reduce climate-change impacts through the significant reduction of CO₂. The DOE's funding and fuel-validation programs are extremely important technology-development efforts and therefore we felt worthy of recognition."

Established as the FreedomCAR Partnership in 2002 and expanded to include fuel companies in 2003, the FreedomCAR and Fuel Partnership is a public-private partnership between the U.S. DOE; five major energy producers – BP America, Chevron Corp., ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil Corp., and Shell Hydrogen LLC; USCAR, whose members include Chrysler LLC, Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp.; and now, two major utilities: DTE Energy and Southern California Edison.

Founded in 1992, USCAR is the umbrella organization for collaborative research among Chrysler, Ford and GM. The goal of USCAR is to further strengthen the technology base of the U.S. auto industry through cooperative research and development.



DAN HOUSTON



KHALED SHAHWAN



ANN SCHLENKER



PATRICK DAVIS