



media release

Date: August 7, 2014
Contact: Carly Rodgers, Marketing and Education Manager, +913.345.1005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IAPD Annual Convention and Plastics Expo Has Strongest Launch Since 2008

Additional educational offerings, top-notch keynote speakers and numerous networking opportunities spark strong opening registration numbers.

Overland Park, KS — The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD), an international trade association comprised of member companies engaged in the distribution and manufacture of engineering plastics, launched registration for its 58th Annual Convention & Plastics Expo on Tuesday, July 15 and saw the highest registration numbers for full convention delegates in its first week since 2008, an increase of 83 percent over 2012 and 56 percent over 2011.

The 58th Annual IAPD Convention will be held in Chicago, IL, October 27-30 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago and will feature the IAPD Plastics Expo for plastics professionals and end-users on Thursday, October 30. For added value to full convention delegates (attending October 27-30), IAPD has increased the variety of its educational content and number of sessions. Covering important topics ranging from saving money through IT to becoming a better negotiator in sales to defining technical terms in plastic piping to the unique challenges women face in the industry and the global impact of plastics in our waste streams, small and large companies will have plenty of learning opportunities in addition to hearing from two keynote speakers, seeing presentations of innovative plastics applications at the IAPD Plastics Application Design Competition and making new and meaningful connections during the many networking and social events.

During the opening general session on Wednesday, October 29, full convention delegates will first hear from well-known economist Alan Beaulieu who will give a forecast that currently predicts increased levels of demand across a broad swath of industries starting the second half of 2015, followed by Ross Bernstein whose presentation is designed to improve organizations' productivity, morale and bottom-line profitability based on lessons learned during his career as a sports reporter. After the general session, IAPD will hold the second annual IAPD Plastics Application Design Competition. Companies and students/faculty are encouraged to submit innovative plastics applications with three finalists from each division giving a 10-minute presentation for a chance to win a prize package that includes IAPD offerings and/or cash and association recognition where winners' stories will be retold in IAPD publications and marketing campaigns.

Time for networking, reconnecting with friends and making new business connections will play an important role in the 58th Annual IAPD Convention & Plastics Expo. New IAPD members and first-time attendees are invited to a special reception on Tuesday, October 28. A Welcome Reception for all full convention delegates will follow later that evening. A social hour sponsored by the Manufacturers' Representative Common Interest

Group will be held on Wednesday evening, a fun run/walk will be held on Thursday morning prior to the start of the Plastics Expo and a fun and entertaining party will close the convention on Thursday evening at the legendary House of Blues Chicago.

“IAPD is looking forward to holding its 58th Annual Convention & Plastics Expo in Chicago again,” said IAPD CEO Susan Avery, CAE. “Each year our goal is to build on the success of the previous year’s event, making it better through the educational offerings, value-added content and networking opportunities. From the strong full convention numbers we saw in the first week of launching registration, we are expecting excellent attendance and are on-track for another successful year.”

Delegates who are unable to attend the week-long annual convention are encouraged to register for the Plastics Expo on Thursday only. With full display booths on a showroom floor and expo space for members and non-member companies, the Plastics Expo is intended to increase visibility for the plastics industry and expand IAPD’s reach to the engineering community and end-users. As IAPD builds on its industry-specific approach to engage, educate and convert end-users to using plastics over competing materials, IAPD members and plastics industry professionals as well as engineers, designers, OEMs and students are invited to attend the one-day event. Thursday only delegates will enjoy a full schedule comprised of valuable educational sessions in the morning, technical sessions presented during Expo hours (10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), opportunities to meet with nearly 75 exhibitors and networking time during lunch and the Plastics Expo Closing Party at House of Blues Chicago.

To find out more about the 58th Annual Convention & Plastics Expo and to register as a full convention delegate, [click here](#). To register as a Thursday only delegate, [click here](#).

About IAPD

The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD), established in 1956, brings together distributors, manufacturers, manufacturers’ representatives, fabricators, recyclers and service providers in an environment which encourages a free flow of ideas and information that help members build their businesses. Every program and service we provide is designed with the simple goal of helping our members increase profitability. Membership in IAPD is an affordable business investment. IAPD provides training, connections with customers and suppliers and information about developments that impact the industry. What makes IAPD unique is a commitment to educating customers and other key end-users about plastics. In other words, IAPD works with members to build the demand for plastics. Central to this effort is the reinforcement of the value of distribution. For more information, visit www.iapd.org.

This release and more are available in IAPD’s [Press Room](#).

Connect with IAPD



###

6734 W. 121st Street, Overland Park, KS 66209 USA
phone: +913.345.1005 fax: +913.345.1006
www.iapd.org | crodgers@iapd.org
Carly Rodgers, Marketing and Education Manager