



**iapd**

international association  
of plastics distribution

## media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **IAPD Announces Distinguished Judging Panel for Design Competition**

OVERLAND PARK, Kans. – The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD) is pleased to introduce the judging panel for the IAPD Design Competition, a featured part of the “Celebrating Plastics” theme of the 57th Annual Convention and Plastics Showcase, to be held in Miami, Florida, September 30-October 2, 2013.

The panel of five judges represents the aerospace industry, the computer industry, the media, academia and the plastics industry. The panel includes:

- Jim Griffing is a technical fellow for the material and process function of Boeing Research and Technology. Griffing was president of SPE from April 2012 to April 2013.
- Spyros Michail is leading the worldwide operations team for soft goods at Apple Inc. He joined Apple in 2000 and has held various positions in the manufacturing design group responsible for the manufacturing and supply chains of enclosure parts for all Apple products. Previous to Apple, Michail held engineering, marketing and sales positions at GE Plastics.
- Richard Nass is the brand director for *Design News*, a UBM Canon publication. *Design News* reaches a community of more than 300,000 design engineers and its website receives nearly one million page views per month. *Design News* is the exclusive media sponsor of the IAPD Design Competition
- Kathyne Newton, Ph.D. is a professor of industrial distribution, technology, leadership and innovation at Purdue University. Dr. Newton is also the University of Industrial Distribution coordinator.
- Jay Gardiner is president of Gardiner Plastics, a thermoplastic resins company and a consulting services provider to the plastics industry. Gardiner is also the president of The Plastics Academy, member of the executive committee of the National Plastics Center, a past president of the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE), a member of the Plastics Hall of Fame and a distinguished member of SPE.

“I am pleased to have such a distinguished and diverse panel judging the IAPD Design Competition,” said Susan E. Avery, CAE, IAPD Chief Executive Officer. “Our distributor, manufacturer and fabricator members are involved in many innovative projects, and the 2013 IAPD Plastics Design Competition is a wonderful way to celebrate all the positive ways plastics are being used in various industries today. Plastics have incredible application stories to tell and the competition will help IAPD promote the uses and benefits of plastics to the broader end-using community.”

### **About the IAPD Design Competition**

The theme for 2013 is "Celebrating the Power of Plastics." With glamorous and exciting South Beach as the setting, one of the many highlights of the week will be the first-ever IAPD Plastics Design Competition, featuring innovative uses of plastics in different applications. This event will appeal to those who use plastics, such as the engineering and design community, plus be eye-opening to the general public and the press. It is an opportunity to see the use of plastics in exciting new ways that help solve problems, conserve energy and provide better, healthier products to the world.

The judging panel will select the top three finalists from the applications received. The first, second and third place winners will be announced at a reception at the end of the Plastics Showcase, which immediately follows the luncheon. The first place winner will receive a prize package valued at \$1,000; the second place winner will receive a prize package valued at \$500; and the third place winner will receive a prize package valued at \$250. Further, the winners' stories will be featured in IAPD's publications and marketing campaigns throughout the year and by *Design News* until the end of the year to further evangelize plastics and their applications.

### **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](http://www.iapd.org).

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