Never Stop Exploring!
The North Face's Composite Explorations

Just as critical as payload weight savings in space exploration, saving ounces of cargo on alpine athletes take on important roles in designing mountaineering equipment for explorations of our own Earth. A pound saved on an Everest attempt could add up to 40,000 - 80,000 lbs. of walking work that the body does not have to exert. We all know that weight saving opportunities abound with technology today. However, the challenges are to find a weight savings program that recreational sectors can afford. The North Face is continually exploring this “last frontier” of technological challenges in developing and providing high performance composites to the recreational markets and to deliver it at a cost which the market can absorb.

Pushing the envelope of strength, weight and performance in alpine equipment is what we are constantly being challenged with by our athletes and consumers. As a profitable business though, we are also challenged to do so at a price that the recreational consumer can afford. Just because the product is the lightest with the newest performing materials on the market doesn’t mean that it will turn into profits as consumers shy away from sticker shock. This limits our selections of materials and technologies that are available to us today.

Presented by:
Tomas Laakso
The North Face, Inc.

Thursday, December 2, 1999
Outdoor adventure door prizes will be awarded!
SEE PAGE 3
RSVP Required
Success Story from the SAMPE Technical Conference in Chicago

The Rocky Mountain SAMPE chapter co-chaired this event with the Utah chapter the week of October 25, 1999. The weather was great and so was the show. The SAMPE technical sessions, tutorials and panels were very well attended. Tutorial attendance exceeded last years show in San Antonio by 14% and revenues from the tutorials exceeded San Antonio by 62% (After expenses, this goes right to the bottom line of the thousands of dollars our chapter will receive for its sponsorship of the show.) Total SAMPE registered attendees were 337, down only 3% from last year. The combined CFA/SAMPE attendance was about 4,200 persons, with 228 exhibitors.

We extend our thanks to all the volunteers from our chapter: Shenghong Fu, DeWayne Howell, Daniel Melo, Don Radford, Frank Roundy, Jim Sampson, Tim Timmerman, and Doug VanGoethem. – THANKS!

Revised Event Schedule for 1999-2000

We have changed the Vendor’s Night to March 20, 2000 to give us more time to do justice on a first class Vendor’s Night. A recent conversation with Jim Bell of the Ball/Wash chapter helped to open our eyes to the potential that can be realized from a well organized/planed Vendor’s Night.

December 2, 1999  Guest Speaker
January 20, 2000  Plant Tour
March 20, 2000  Vendor’s Night
April 27, 2000  Student Poster Night
September 21, 2000  Composites Workshop

Composites Workshop a Winner!

Our first annual composites workshop was a huge success. Yes, first annual! Due to the great success, we hope to have another workshop next year (September 2000.) Reports from the participants showed a desire to continue this tradition, saying that they found the workshop “most useful.” We were overwhelmed with 85 participants, filling the StorageTek Composites facility to capacity. The event drew students (41%) and professionals (59%) alike. 80% of total turnout were non-SAMPE members. Participants from Lockheed-Martin and Ball Aerospace accounted for 26% of the total turnout for the workshop. Much of this can be credited to Tim Timmerman, our chapter treasurer, who got the workshop advertised in his company’s (Lock-Mart) newsletter.

At our barbecue dinner, we handed out applications for SAMPE membership and introduced everyone to the benefits of SAMPE. Our hope is that many of these non-members will actually become members.

Plan to attend the following SAMPE events:

SAMPE 2000,
May 21-25, 2000, Long Beach, CA

Rocky Mountain SAMPE Composites Workshop (Proposed)
Sept. 21, 2000, Boulder, CO

32nd International SAMPE Technical Conference,
Nov. 5-9, 2000, Boston, MA

SAMPE Chapter Meeting
Thursday, December 2, 1999

The Garden Grill
6:00 PM social
6:30 PM dinner
7:15 presentation.

Buffet style choice of Beef, Chicken and Pasta
$20 per person ($10 students),
Advanced Payment Required By Monday, November 29, 1999
Send checks to:
SAMPE, C/O Frank Roundy, 1633 Caddo Drive, Loveland, CO 80538

For more information call Frank at: 303-530-7338

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