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SPE Automotive Innovation Award Won Jointly by Cooper Standard and DSM

NOVI, Mich., Nov. 15, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Cooper Standard (NYSE: CPS) and DSM were honored with a Society of Plastics Engineers' (SPE®) Automotive Innovation Award during last week's annual awards gala. The team won SPE's "Most Innovative Use of Plastics" award in the "materials" category for Cooper Standard's High Performance Vacuum Brake Tubes designed for automotive industry applications.

Developed to replace traditional clamped rubber hoses, Cooper Standard's High Performance Vacuum Brake Tube simplifies engine and undercarriage routing. The elegant design uses a smaller diameter with a thinner wall which allows a 35 percent space savings and a more than 50 percent weight reduction over current rubber hoses and clamps. This product also allows for rapid assembly and ease of maintenance through the use of quick connectors, and eliminates the need for heat shields and brackets. Combined, the system provides a cost effective, next-generation tube innovation.

"The DSM Arnitel® CM622 thermoplastic material provided us the perfect opportunity to deliver customers an innovative solution to meet critical mass reduction goals, while exceeding their expectations for high performance vacuum brake applications," said Chris Couch, vice president, innovation and product groups, Cooper Standard. "We're thrilled to be honored by SPE for this team achievement."

DSM's Arnitel CM622 thermoplastic enables the Vacuum Brake Tubes to perform over a broad temperature range (-40 to 150C), possess excellent under-hood chemical resistance, offer burst strengths exceeding 60 bar and deliver flexural force of greater than 50 Newtons. The Arnitel CM622 material was designed to maintain property retention after extended exposure to elevated temperatures. Further, the plastic lines and connectors are resistant to the corrosive effects of road salts.

Commenting on the award on behalf of DSM, Bill Senge, R&T Director Americas, accentuated the importance of the partners' collaboration from concept to market in this advanced application project, "What is most challenging in our business is to stay ahead of the innovation curve. We at DSM believe strong collaborations ensure that our developments cater for current and future market trends. This SPE award for Cooper Standard's High Performance Vacuum Brake Tubes is also proof of what can be achieved when material specialists and application engineers join forces to drive automotive trends and speed the implementation of next-generation lightweighting designs."

SPE's Automotive Innovation Awards program is the oldest and largest competition of its kind in the automotive and plastics industries. Dozens of teams made up of OEMs, tier suppliers and polymer producers submit nominations for innovative parts, systems and modules. Applications must be on a commercially available vehicle by November 1 of the year in which a nomination is submitted.

About Cooper Standard

Cooper Standard, headquartered in Novi, Mich., is a leading global supplier of systems and components for the automotive industry. Products include rubber and plastic sealing, fuel and brake lines, fluid transfer hoses and anti-vibration systems. Cooper Standard employs approximately 30,000 people globally and operates in 20 countries around the world. For more information, please visit www.cooperstandard.com.

About Royal DSM

Royal DSM is a global science-based company active in health, nutrition and materials. By connecting its unique competences in life sciences and materials sciences DSM is driving economic prosperity, environmental progress and social advances to create sustainable value for all stakeholders simultaneously. DSM delivers innovative solutions that nourish, protect and improve performance in global markets such as food and dietary supplements, personal care, feed, medical devices, automotive, paints, electrical and electronics, life protection, alternative energy and bio-based materials. DSM and its associated companies deliver annual net sales of about €10 billion with approximately 25,000 employees. DSM North American Headquarters are in Troy, MI. The company is listed on Euronext Amsterdam. More information can be found at www.dsm.com.

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