

## **SPI Bioplastics Council Meets with USDA and FTC**

On March 12, 2009 the SPI Bioplastics Council, a special interest group of SPI: the Plastics Trade Association, met with representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to discuss issues impacting the bioplastics industry and to identify possible partnership opportunities.

Both USDA and FTC have agreed to participate at NPE2009: The International Plastics Showcase which will take place June 22-26, 2009, at Chicago's McCormick Place. USDA's Office of Technology Transfer has agreed to anchor the Emerging Technologies Pavilion's bioplastics quadrant. In addition, both the USDA and FTC will be presenting at the NPE2009 "Business of Bioplastics" educational session which will be held on June 23, 2009 and will be sponsored by the SPI Bioplastics Council.

The Bioplastics Council was created in order to provide a forum for resin and additive suppliers, as well as processors and equipment suppliers, to promote the development of bioplastics. The six founding members of the group are Arkema, BASF Corporation, Cereplast Inc., DuPont, NatureWorks LLC and Telles (a Metabolix/ADM Joint Venture).

Learn more about the group at <http://www.bioplasticscouncil.org/>. Membership and other inquiries should be addressed to SPI Vice President, Material Suppliers Council, Melissa Hockstad at [mhockstad@plasticsindustry.org](mailto:mhockstad@plasticsindustry.org) or 202-974-5258.

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Founded in 1937, SPI is the plastics industry trade association representing the third largest manufacturing industry in the United States. SPI's member companies represent the entire plastics industry supply chain, including processors, machinery and equipment manufacturers and raw materials suppliers. The U.S. plastics industry employs 1.1 million workers and provides nearly \$379 billion in annual shipments.