

THE ITB GROUP, LTD.

39555 Orchard Hill Place * Suite 225

Novi, Michigan 48375-5377

TEL: (248) 380-6310

FAX: (248) 380-7294

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Bryan Eldredge
E-mail: beldredge@itbgroup.com
Internet: www.itbgroup.com

ABOVE-THE-BELT LINE MODULES AND SYSTEMS 2006 CONFERENCE

The ITB Group, Ltd. (Novi, Michigan) held its fifth annual Above-The-Belt Line Modules and Systems 2006 Conference on December 5th at the Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel in Novi, Michigan, USA. The conference covered the collection of window, sealing, and rooftop systems which are summarized by the industry term "Above-The-Belt Line." This year's conference sponsors included:



Bayer MaterialScience



Dow Automotive



EXATEC[®]
Inspiring glazing technology

Morning presentations focused on automotive roof systems, with topics ranging from weight reduction methods to roof system production. Grupo Antolin spoke on the different types of technologies that can be incorporated in headliners. The afternoon session kicked off with presentations about Rollover Protection. Ford Motor Company's presentation on Roof Strength and Occupant Protection in Rollovers was the highlight of the Rollover Protection session of the event. The presentations were capped off with discussions on Polycarbonate Glazing and Sealing System Developments. The presentations during this section were highly technical in nature and provided detailed information pertaining to the testing of various techniques and materials.

The conference had several breaks as well as a cocktail reception that allowed for attendees to network and to view the exhibits. Exhibitors at the event included:

- A. Schulman
Birmingham, Michigan, USA
Tom Egan
248-643-6100
- JSR America
Cincinnati, Ohio, USA
Yoshiaki Zama
513-421-6166
- Bytewise Measurement Systems
Columbus, Georgia, USA
Jim Williams
404-915-7516
- L&L Products
Romeo, Michigan, USA
Kurt Liley
586-336-3536
- Cyro Industries
Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA
Steve Ferrero
616-987-9204
- LANXESS
Auburn Hills, Michigan, USA
Bill Burnham
248-475-7771
- Dow Automotive
Auburn Hills, Michigan, USA
Tom Shafer
248-391-6419
- Saint-Gobain Sekurit
Shelby Township, Michigan, USA
Angela Locke
586-532-9500
- Edscha
Pontiac, Michigan, USA
Jeremy Goddard
248-205-3742
- Webasto
Rochester Hills, Michigan, USA
Michelle Minatel
248-997-5223
- Exatec
Wixom, Michigan, USA
Dave Morawski
248-926-4207

In addition to the presentations and exhibits, the final highlights of the event were the two display vehicles that exhibited roof system technology. The first, a Volkswagen Eos, presented by Webasto Roof Systems, is built with a standard retractable hard top.

The second, a Lamborghini Gallardo Spyder, presented by Edscha Roof Systems, is built with a standard retractable soft top.



Attendance for the 2006 event was strong and the OEMs were well represented with engineers from General Motors, Ford Motor Company and DaimlerChrysler to name just a few. In addition to the OEMs, Tier 1 suppliers and Material suppliers were also among those attending. Due to the vast amount of positive feedback, we believe that next year's event will draw in an even larger crowd and will be even more successful.

ATB 2006 Conference Attendee Breakdown

