



Statement

For Immediate Release

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ACC COMMENTS ON REPORTS ABOUT FORMALDEHYDE IN HAIR PRODUCTS Current Regulations Should be Used to Determine Safety of Products

WASHINGTON, D.C. (October 19, 2010) – *The following statement about the use of formaldehyde in the Brazilian Blowout, a popular hair product, can be attributed to the American Chemistry Council’s Senior Director, Ann M. Mason:*

“As the manufacturers of formaldehyde, our members take their role as product stewards very seriously. We believe that the producers and users of formaldehyde and other chemicals should follow federal and state regulations, which set limits for the safe and appropriate use of chemicals. Media reports indicate that there are high levels of formaldehyde in the Brazilian Blowout. We encourage the company that makes the Brazilian Blowout to cooperate fully with government officials to ensure that the product meets federal and state standards for formaldehyde use.

“The Cosmetic Ingredient Review (CIR), a national scientific organization that is sanctioned by the FDA to review and assess the safety of ingredients used in cosmetics, classifies formaldehyde in beauty products as ‘safe’ as long as the substance is no greater than 0.2 percent as free formaldehyde, kept to a minimum, and is not aerosolized. CIR’s standards should inform any effort to measure the safety of the Brazilian Blowout and related products.

“Consumers can find more information about the safety of products manufactured by the beauty and salon industry at www.cir-safety.org/findings.shtml.”

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The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®, common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues, and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a \$674 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation's largest exporters, accounting for ten cents out of every dollar in U.S. exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation's critical infrastructure.

