News Release

For Immediate Release

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ACC RELEASES NEW TOOLS TO HELP IMPROVE IMPLEMENTATION
OF CHEMICAL SECURITY REGULATIONS

WASHINGTON (February 20, 2013) – The American Chemistry Council (ACC) recently introduced new tools designed to enhance the process for developing and reviewing security plans under the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program. Security plans developed using ACC’s Alternative Security Program (ASP) guidance document and template will help provide the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) with greater clarity about regulated facilities’ security measures and how they meet or exceed CFATS requirements.

Under CFATS, regulated facilities must submit a Site Security Plan (SSP) to DHS outlining existing and planned measures to address potential security threats. The submission of plans using ACC’s guidance and template is an alternate approach to completing the site security plan requirement that is explicitly permitted under CFATS.

―America’s chemical manufacturers continue to make progress when it comes to securing our nation’s critical chemical infrastructure,‖ said Bill Erny, ACC’s Senior Director of Security. ―The ACC ASP guidance document and template provides an option for the regulated community that paints a clear picture of the security measures in place and provides a concise and reliable format for DHS analysis and site inspections. This new tool will facilitate a more effective working relationship between facility operators and DHS by ensuring that a complete security plan is presented to DHS inspectors during an audit.‖

Dave Wulf, Director of DHS’s Infrastructure Security Compliance Division (ISCD), has praised ACC’s efforts to develop an ASP template. ISCD made staff available for consultation as ACC considered options for its template. Director Wulf has noted that the use of Alternative Security Programs that are grounded in the principles of CFATS’ risk-based performance standards—particularly when used by multiple facilities within the same company—can enhance those facilities’ efforts to attain authorization and approval of their Security Plans.‖ In regard to ISCD's consultations with chemical and other industries on their efforts to develop potential ASP templates, Director Wulf also stated that “as ISCD moves in 2013 to significantly heighten the pace of authorizations, inspections and final approvals of Security Plans, ASPs will undoubtedly be an important part of the CFATS program’s continued forward progress.”

―The security and safety of our workers, their families and the communities in which we live is a shared goal. The development of these regulatory tools highlights what can be achieved through a

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strong public/private partnership, and ACC looks forward to continuing our work with DHS to help improve the implementation of CFATS,” Erny added.

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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 $760 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is the largest exporting sector in the U.S., accounting for 12 percent of 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.