



Statement

For Immediate Release

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ACC RESPONSE TO CNN STORY ON CHEMICAL SAFETY

ARLINGTON, VA (June 1, 2010) – The American Chemistry Council (ACC) today reaffirmed the safety of chemical products for their intended uses. The public should not be misled that products made from chemicals are inherently dangerous. In fact, chemical innovations have contributed to the solutions that help preserve the environment, and protect the health and safety of employees, communities and consumers.

The safety of chemical products and manufacturing processes – and the safety of chemical plant communities – is a top priority of the chemical industry. Every day we make decisions to minimize risks and take appropriate measures to manage those risks. We believe the benefits of products like life-saving medicines, air bags and materials save energy far outweigh the risks.

Contrary to some reports, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has not been idle in regulating chemicals in commerce. EPA has required additional testing on hundreds of chemicals, and has imposed appropriate controls on thousands of others, in their implementation of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). EPA has the authority to require manufacturers to develop specific test data and can block a chemical's use or release into the marketplace until it is satisfied with the information received. More importantly, EPA exercises that authority.

Consumers deserves to have confidence that the products they buy, when used for their intended purposes, are safe. Consumers also deserve to have confidence that the federal regulatory system can protect against significant risks to health and the environment. That is why ACC and our members support changes to TSCA that enhance public confidence, allow the Agency to harness the important advances in science and technology for health and environmental protection, and foster the jobs and innovation that characterize the chemical industry.

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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 \$689 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.



