Statement

For Immediate Release

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ACC: U.S. CHEMISTRY INDUSTRY AIDING GULF OF MEXICO RESPONSE
Dispersants, Production Increases, Local Assistance Help Mitigate Impact

ARLINGTON, VA (May 5, 2010) – America’s chemistry industry is providing innovative products such as dispersants that are helping to mitigate the impact of the Gulf of Mexico oil discharge. Chemistry companies are also providing local assistance. Additional information about dispersants is at http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/learning/disperse.htm. Additional information about the chemistry industry’s response is at http://www.americanchemistry.com/GulfResponse.

American Chemistry Council (ACC) President and CEO Cal Dooley issued the following statement:

“We support our fellow Americans on the Gulf Coast as they respond to the recent accident. Our thoughts are with industry representatives and employees, residents, and federal, state and local governments that are working hard to protect Gulf communities and resources.

“The chemistry industry has responded swiftly and vigorously to help mitigate the leak’s impact. For example, Nalco Company is providing chemical dispersant to the scene, while a number of chemistry companies are supplying needed components for dispersant. We have taken extraordinary steps to increase our dispersant production and institute new coordination measures to meet the need. Other chemistry products with potential applications include detergents and absorbents. We applaud these companies’ prompt action and strong commitment in addressing this challenge.

“Our industry is also offering local help in the response. Chemistry companies are partnering with bird and animal rescue authorities; providing products to assist with oil removal; offering equipment such as supply vessels, fire and oil containment booms, and radios; and providing technical advice and personnel. Meanwhile, the chemistry industry is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to expedite chemistry industry production and assistance.”

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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.