ACC WELCOMES PRESIDENT’S RENEWED CALLS TO BOOST U.S. EXPORTS

WASHINGTON (Nov. 8, 2013) – In a speech today at the Port of New Orleans, President Obama restated his administration’s commitment to boosting the U.S. economy through increased exports.

The following statement can be attributed to the American Chemistry Council (ACC):

“As one of the nation’s leading export industries, with $188 billion in exports last year alone, American chemical manufacturers welcome the president’s calls to boost U.S. exports. Of the nearly 800,000 jobs made possible by our industry, more than a quarter are export dependent, and there is opportunity to create thousands more.

“Louisiana is the second-largest chemistry-producing state, with more than $68 billion in output, and is a prime example of the kind of growth made possible by the domestic chemicals industry. The state’s vast shale gas reserves and robust infrastructure help generate some of the $8.3 billion in chemical products shipped every year to countries around the globe. With the right policies and regulations in place, exports from Louisiana and other states have the potential to grow even more.

“Earlier this year, ACC released a series of policy and regulatory recommendations on trade, energy, tax, regulation and transportation that would strengthen the competitive position of the U.S. chemical industry, reduce costs for domestic manufacturers and lead to a significant increase in U.S. exports. All told, these changes would add up to $58 billion in additional export growth for the chemical industry alone.”

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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 $770 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation’s economy. It is one of the nation’s largest exporters, accounting for twelve percent of all 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.