



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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CONGRESS INTRODUCED TO NEW INDUSTRY, LABOR ALLIANCE

WASHINGTON (April 27, 2016) – The chemical industry and leading national construction labor unions held a luncheon today to introduce the Chemical Industry Labor-Management Committee (CILMC) to members of Congress and their staff. Those joining members of the CILMC at today’s event included Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) along with Rep. Brian Babin (R-TX-36) and Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ-09).

The CILMC is a unique partnership between the chemical industry and organized construction labor. The Committee advocates for public policies that will grow the U.S. chemical sector and create more good-paying, middle-class jobs for skilled construction trades workers.

The \$801 billion U.S. chemical sector supports nearly 6 million American jobs, both directly and throughout the supply chain. And due in large part to the ongoing shale gas energy production boom, American chemistry is growing at a healthy pace; so far \$164 billion in new chemical industry investments are completed, planned or underway. Chemical companies are expected to either directly or indirectly create 465,000 new jobs by 2023, thanks to the shale gas production boom.

The chemical industry will need to draw on the highly skilled workforce of the construction trades to fill many of these critical positions and bring these historic planned investments to fruition. In fact, skilled craft construction openings will account for almost 40 percent of all U.S. job growth in the coming years. Construction unions have decades of experience recruiting and training people for careers in the skilled trades—including women, communities of color and military veterans.

“The U.S. business of chemistry is experiencing historic growth, and billions in announced new investments mean the sector will continue to grow for years to come,” said American Chemistry Council (ACC) President and CEO Cal Dooley. “New chemical facilities and capacity expansions are generating jobs for skilled craft construction professionals, as well as process engineers and project managers. By working together through this important partnership between labor and management, we want to help shape policies that will keep this economic momentum rolling and this level of job creation going strong for years to come.”

“North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU) fully understand how a thriving domestic chemical industry is absolutely vital to new, and sustained, economic and job growth in America,” said Sean McGarvey, president of NABTU. “That’s why we are excited to be partnering with ACC on the launch of a new labor-management committee that is emblematic of

a new approach to labor-management relations in America, where employers and unions work together on finding solutions to workforce development challenges, as well as legislative and regulatory challenges. In the end, this new Committee will work to elevate industry standards and provide job and career training opportunities—all of which work to strengthen and maintain the great American middle class.”

In addition to job creation, the CILMC promotes safe workplaces and environmental responsibility. The Committee is comprised of eight trustee organizations, co-chaired by ACC and NABTU. In addition to ACC and NABTU, founding members from industry are Albemarle Corporation, Calgon Carbon Corporation and Solvay America. Founding labor organization members are the Laborers’ International Union of North America; the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers; and the United Association: Union of Plumbers, Fitters, Welders & Service Techs.

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North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU) is an alliance of 14 national and international unions in the building and construction industry that collectively represent over 3 million skilled craft professionals in the United States and Canada. Each year, our unions and our signatory contractor partners invest over \$1 billion in private sector money to fund and operate over 1,900 apprenticeship training and education facilities across North America that produce the safest, most highly trained and productive skilled craft workers found anywhere in the world.

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 an \$801 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is the nation's largest exporter, accounting for fourteen 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.