EASTMAN CHEMICAL COMPANY, SOLVAY AMERICA AND NIACET CORPORATION RECOGNIZED FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE

Companies receive Responsible Care® Company of the Year Award at ACC Annual Meeting

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (June 4, 2013) – The American Chemistry Council (ACC) today presented its Responsible Care® Company of the Year award to three member companies, Eastman Chemical Company, Solvay America, Inc., and Niacet Corporation, in recognition of superior environmental, health, safety and security (EHS&S) performance.

“Through leadership, passion and initiative, these three ACC member companies embody the industry’s commitment to excellence through Responsible Care,” said ACC President and CEO Cal Dooley. “Their commitment to strong environmental performance, the safety of their workers and the health of the communities in which they operate are a model for the chemical industry as a whole.”

To be eligible for the Responsible Care Company of the Year award, companies must demonstrate they have surpassed specific Responsible Care performance criteria, including: a safety performance rating in the top 10 percent of companies in their size category, with no significant process incidents in the previous year; positive performance measures in the areas of transportation safety, process safety and emissions reduction; and demonstrated improvements in EHS&S performance, product stewardship, distribution safety and emergency preparedness.

Eastman Chemical Company has practiced Responsible Care for more than 20 years and has incorporated the Responsible Care ethic into all aspects of its operations. The company was named a 2012 and 2013 ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year, in recognition of its enhanced energy management program and commitment to continuous improvement in this arena. In 2012, Eastman implemented a corporate safety initiative, and that same year its recordable injury rate was the lowest in company history.

“It is an honor to be recognized among our peers for excellence in a program and philosophy that is foundational to our health, safety, environmental and security program,” said Jim Rogers, chairman and CEO of Eastman Chemical Company. “This award is an affirmation of our commitment to Responsible Care and the work of Eastman team members to embed the principles of Responsible Care into the day-to-day conduct of our business.”

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Responsible Care Company of the Year Award Winners
June 4, 2013
Page 2

Responsible Care is integrated into Solvay America’s business on a national and global level. The company is implementing programs to promote sustainability and drive continuous improvement and has established sustainability development goals for the next 20 years. By 2013, Solvay had met its 2020 goals to reduce greenhouse gas and CO₂ emissions, air and water emissions and energy use by 20 percent and is now establishing new 2020 targets to achieve further reductions.

“The Solvay Group is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2013 and is recognized globally as a leader in the chemical industry,” said Mike Lacey, President of Solvay America, Inc. “Responsible Care has been fully integrated into the corporate culture of Solvay for many years—it is the way we do business. Receiving this award recognizes and validates our efforts in being a safe, environmentally responsible company.”

Niacet Corporation has demonstrated Responsible Care internally and externally. The company’s Niagara Falls facility uses hydropower generated from the Niagara River for power, and its steam requirement is supplied by the nearby Covanta Energy-from-Waste facility, which produces enough energy from waste to provide electricity to more than 6,000 area households. Through implementing the Responsible Care Management System, Niacet has achieved measureable improvements, including reduced environmental pollution, enhanced employee safety and lower costs associated with process emissions, wastewater discharges, waste handling and disposal.

“Responsible Care has been a great success for Niacet. It has led to cost reductions across the company, by focusing on the way we were operating our business, and the way the best-in-class were operating their businesses,” said Kelly Brannen, managing director of Niacet Corporation. “Our initial fear when we joined ACC was that we would not be able to comply with the tenants of Responsible Care because it cost too much. In the end, these fears were unfounded.”

Responsible Care is the chemical industry’s world-class EHS&S performance initiative. Since 1988, Responsible Care companies have reduced hazardous releases to the air, land and water by 75 percent and have a worker safety record that is more than twice as safe, on average, as the overall chemical manufacturing sector and four times safer than the manufacturing industry as a whole.

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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.