



# News Release

**For Immediate Release**

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## **NEW NETWORK TO ADVOCATE FOR BIOBASED CHEMISTRY**

WASHINGTON (March 4, 2014) – The American Chemistry Council (ACC) unveiled today a new Biobased Chemistry Network to help educate policymakers on how to create effective and workable regulatory programs for the growing biobased chemistry industry. Global sales of this segment of the U.S. chemicals industry range from \$13.5 billion to \$20 billion, with the U.S. accounting for approximately 20 percent of those sales, or \$2.7 billion to \$4.0 billion.

“The chemical industry is transformational,” said Emily Tipaldo, Director of Regulatory and Technical Affairs. “ACC member companies are at the forefront of converting natural resources into a wide range of innovative products that consumers value, that make modern life possible, and that help to deliver a more sustainable future. The Biobased Network allows members to work together on creating an environment that will help foster and develop this dynamic segment of our industry.”

Biobased chemistry is a promising subcategory of industrial biotechnology. It includes the manufacture of chemical products using enzymes, micro-organisms, fermentation, or bio-catalysis at any stage of production, and also includes the manufacture of chemical products from renewable resources.

Many of the benefits of this maturing industry have yet to be realized. Lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, reduced volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions and other air pollutants, as well as reductions in energy needs can be achieved through biobased chemistry. Other potential benefits include energy diversity and security, and the growth of domestic manufacturing and associated job creation.

Currently, the Network includes the following 19 member companies. Akzo Nobel Chemicals; BASF Corp.; Braskem America, Inc.; Chevron Oronite Company; Dow Chemical; DuPont; Eastman Chemical; ExxonMobil Chemical Company; Future Fuel Chemical; Galata Chemicals; Lanxess Corp.; MeadWestvaco; Metabolix; Myriant Corporation; OPX; Biotechnologies; Shell Chemical; Solvay NA; Virent.

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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.*

