



Statement

For Immediate Release

January 10, 2018

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POLYSTYRENE RECYCLING GROWING, ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OVERLOOKED

WASHINGTON (January 10, 2018)—Earlier today McDonalds announced plans to stop using polystyrene foam packaging by the end of this year. The American Chemistry Council issued the following statement:

“Every day more companies and consumers are taking important steps to reduce their environmental footprint. From water and resource usage, to energy savings, to efficiency and often to recycling, validated life cycle studies demonstrate plastics and plastic packaging consistently outperform competing materials. The fact is: Polystyrene (PS) foam can be—and is being—recycled in many communities, more so than many alternatives. We are working hard to grow access to foam recycling, and we are also enthusiastic about recently announced advances in chemical recycling for PS foam. Plastics makers are working every day to further improve the already impressive sustainability of plastics.”

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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 \$768 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is among the largest exporters in the nation, accounting for fourteen percent of all U.S. goods 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.

