NEWS RELEASE

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SAFETY AND SECURITY A TOP PRIORITY FOR CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Responsible Care®, Culture of Safety Put Industry at Forefront of
Manufacturing and Safety Performance

WASHINGTON (Aug. 1, 2013) – Testifying today on behalf of The Dow Chemical Company and the American Chemistry Council (ACC), Timothy J. Scott, chief security officer and corporate director, emergency services and security at Dow, told members of the House Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies that ACC and its members, in close partnership with the federal government, share a strong commitment to safeguard employees and the communities in which they operate.

“Everyone must be on the same page and working together when it comes to protecting workers and communities,” Scott said in written remarks submitted to the Subcommittee. “We need to make sure that current regulations are being implemented fully and properly and that agencies are properly equipped to train their staff, educate the regulated community, and enforce existing standards.”

ACC and its members have sought to build upon the overall industry’s safety performance through Responsible Care, the chemical industry’s world-class environmental, health, safety and security performance initiative. Under Responsible Care, ACC members work with emergency responders and communities to coordinate response plans and to continually improve industry performance. Responsible Care is mandatory for ACC members and partner companies, including chemical transporters, distributors, warehouses, logistics planners and others along the supply chain.

Responsible Care companies have reduced injury and illness rates at their facilities by 79 percent since 1990. They have a worker injury rate five times lower than the U.S. manufacturing sector as a whole and nearly three times better than the business of chemistry overall. Responsible Care companies also have reduced the number of incidents that resulted in a product spill, fire, explosion or injury by 58 percent since 1995.

“Because of our critical role in the economy, our commitment to our customers and shareholders and our responsibility to our neighboring communities, safety and security will continue to be a top priority for ACC and its members,” Scott said. “We look forward to working with government officials at all levels to further enhance safety and security at our facilities, so we all continue to enjoy the essential benefits of a strong and growing chemical industry in America.”

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Safety and Security Top Priorities
Aug. 1, 2013
Page 2

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.