



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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USE IT IF YOU NEED IT: ACC ANNOUNCES PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP POSITION FOR STRAWS

WASHINGTON (January 26, 2018) – If you don't need a straw, don't take one. That's the premise of the latest [product stewardship position](#) announced by the American Chemistry Council's (ACC) Plastics Division. ACC developed its position as part of ongoing efforts to help promote the responsible use of valuable plastic materials and in accordance with our commitment to the *Trash Free Seas Alliance*® (TFSA).

“It's the right thing to do,” said Steve Russell, vice president of ACC's Plastics Division. “As a member of the Trash Free Seas Alliance, we support many initiatives that help prevent marine litter, and we believe providing straws through an ‘on-demand’ system gives customers choice and helps prevent waste by ensuring that straws are distributed only to those who need them.”

ACC's position on straws is designed to help avoid wasteful use by recommending that straws not be provided unless customers ask for them. At the same time, it acknowledges that there are circumstances where straws enhance safety and sanitary conditions.

Since 2011, America's Plastics Makers® have partnered in many efforts to research and prevent marine debris around the world under our [“Declaration of the Global Plastics Associations for Solutions on Marine Litter.”](#) which has been signed by 70 plastics associations in 35 countries. Our [2016 Progress Report](#) lists 260 projects that have been completed or are in progress in various parts of the world since the effort began.

TSFA brings together thought leaders to work toward the immediate goal of reducing the amount of plastic waste entering the ocean annually by 50 percent by 2025.

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<http://www.americanchemistry.com>

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,



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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.

