



News Release

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CHEMISTRY INNOVATION HIGHLIGHTED ON EARTH DAY

ARLINGTON, VA (April 22, 2010) –*Forty years ago, the first Earth Day ushered in a new era of environmental awareness for Americans concerned about the future health of our planet. To commemorate Earth Day 2010, American Chemistry Council (ACC) President and CEO, Cal Dooley, issued the following statement:*

“The values that encompass Earth Day are the same values that chemistry companies embrace on a daily basis. Since the first Earth Day, our innovative advances have contributed to the solutions that help preserve the environment, and protect the health and safety of employees, communities and consumers. Our Responsible Care® initiative commits all of our members to continuous improvement in areas contributing to the sustainability of our planet. This program has enabled companies to reduce releases to the environment by more than 73% since 1988. That’s progress.

“We know a lot has changed in forty years. As our nation - and the world -- pursue solutions to climate change, the business of chemistry is making essential contributions. Under Responsible Care, our members have reduced greenhouse gas intensity by more than 28 percent since 1992, a remarkable achievement for one of the most energy-intensive industries. And for every unit of greenhouse gases (GHGs) emitted by the chemical industry, society saves more than two units through use of chemistry products and technologies, like insulation, fuel additives, new materials for windmills, solar panels, and more.

“Earth Day also reminds us of our individual responsibilities -- for example, the responsibility to use and dispose of post-consumer waste wisely. For two decades, our plastics industry has been at the forefront of developing the technologies and infrastructure that allow Americans to recycle more. Many widely used plastics—like bottles, bags, wraps and containers—can be recycled into useful new products such as carpeting, clothing, backyard decks, and new packaging. We continue to work with consumers to help raise awareness about the importance of recycling. And it’s working. Plastic bottle recycling by consumers increased 75 million pounds in 2008, reaching a record high of more than 2.4 billion pounds for the year.

“As we celebrate Earth Day 2010, the chemical industry is proud of the contribution of its products make to a better and more sustainable world. We invite you to learn more about the way we are improving our performance, investing in our communities, and educating consumers about product recycling by visiting www.americanchemistry.com/earthday and www.americanchemistry.com/responsiblecare.

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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 \$689 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation's largest exporters, accounting for ten cents out of every dollar in 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.

