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| S. Joe Bhatia President and CEO American National Standards Institute | Action and Reaction: Developing a sustainable approach to emerging chemical issues Baltimore, Maryland – August 9-10, 2007 Welcoming and closing remarks from ANSI <i>Closing remarks: 417 words, approximately 3.3 minutes</i> |
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Closing remarks

August 10, 2007, 3:30 p.m.

Thank you very much, Nina.

Over the past two days, we have heard two thoughts shared again and again:

The first: there is no one size fits all approach to managing chemical issues.

The second: we need to focus on building collaborative networks that function across sectors and across national borders.

In his keynote address, Dr. Marburger stressed the need for strategic global information-sharing networks that can keep all of us informed. We've already gotten started and made some connections this morning during our networking breakfast.

But I know we can do even more. Going forward, ANSI stands ready to provide a neutral forum for all stakeholders – public and private sector alike. Let's work together to be more deliberate, coordinated, and strategic in anticipating key chemical issues that affect us all.

(pause)

As we consider how everything we learned over the past two days will help us to strengthen our various organizations, I encourage each of you to “lead with vision” ... Work with us to help develop or advance innovative and proactive solutions that address both current and future chemical issues.

- 1) Help strengthen relationships between partner organizations in government and industry. As we heard yesterday, a lot is going on in U.S. government agencies and other institutions. Industry interaction is essential.
- 2) Help pursue a level playing field that will strengthen U.S. competitiveness in the global marketplace. Existing regulations and future guidelines and proposals should not impede market access... nor, as Dr. Marburger suggested yesterday, should they hamper technological innovations in the chemical area.
- 3) Finally, help push for standards and compliance programs that take into account the interests of all stakeholders, including environmental, safety, and consumer representatives.

(pause)

Before concluding, I'd like to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation to Nina McClelland, without whose determination, passion, and vision, we would not have had such an excellent conference this week. Nina, you have been a wonderful conference chair, and I thank you for all of your efforts.

Thanks are also due to Mike Taubitz and David Schutt, both of whom were actively involved on the conference planning committee.

Thank you also to all of our speakers, panelists, and moderators – your presentations were very informative, and we appreciate your perspectives and enthusiastic participation.

(pause)

Your ongoing and active engagement will be invaluable as we work to develop innovative and proactive solutions to both current and future chemical issues.

Thank you all for joining us. I wish you all safe travels and a wonderful weekend.