Establishing a Manufacturers’ Network on Chemical Regulations

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ACTION AND REACTION
Developing a sustainable approach to emerging chemical issues
Purpose of Breakfast Discussion

- **Share** findings / follow-up from September 2006 workshop

- **Identify** key manufacturing issues / concerns

- **Stimulate** thought process for breakout sessions

- **Establish** an issue-driven manufacturers’ network
Identified Needs *

- Better anticipation of emerging issues
  - Early identification provides opportunity to inject science into policy debates

- U.S. manufacturers must
  - take a more proactive approach to addressing issues
  - collaborate and speak with one voice to have better representation in domestic and international forums

*Industry-NIST workshop | September 26-27, 2006
Identified Needs (continued)

- **Improved communication** with / among
  - manufacturing sectors and entire supply chain
    - Better use of existing technology
    - Better linkage among trade associations
  - U.S. government with foreign officials on non-tariff trade barriers associated with diverse chemical regulations
    - More interaction of government scientists and counterparts from other countries
    - Move from “list based” to “risk based” approach
Identified Needs (continued)

- Better use of “green chemistry” and “green engineering” tools
  - Life cycle assessment

- More effective / strategic use of voluntary standards to complement regulation
  - Regulations are the “what”; standards are the “how”
Follow-up Actions from 2006 Workshop

- Overall Coordination / Communication – Monthly teleconference
- Business Case & HSE Case
- 2007 Conference
- Collaborative Network (e.g., ANSI Panel)
- Change from List Based to Risk Based Approach
- Inject Science into Policy Deliberations
- Tactical / Strategic Use of Standards
- Supply Chain issues (REACH)

Next steps
What’s Next?

- Many key manufacturing issues still need to be addressed
  - Lead time
  - Cost
  - Supply chain readiness
    - Proliferation of similar regulation
    - Non-common requirements
    - Lack of standards for implementation
  - Proprietary information
  - Forced de-selection of materials used in manufactured goods
  - Supply chain disruption
  - Others (to be discussed during today’s breakout sessions)
Proposal

- Establish a manufacturers’ network on chemical regulations
  - Disseminate information
  - Identify issues of concern
  - Share best practices
  - Explore training needs
  - Leverage resources
Next Steps

- Recruit interested companies/organization
- Establish communication channels (e.g., Internet, e-mail & teleconference network)
- Set initial priorities
- Develop action plan to advance agenda
- Coordinate through ANSI
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