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American Coalition for Ethanol Hosts 22nd Annual Ethanol Conference, Trade Show & Annual Business Meeting of Members

New Representatives Elected to ACE Board of Directors

Sioux Falls, SD (August 19, 2009) – The American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) hosted its 22nd Annual Ethanol Conference & Trade Show last week in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, running August 11-13 at the Midwest Airlines Center. The organization also held its Annual Business Meeting for members during the event. ACE is the nation's largest ethanol advocacy association with nearly 1500 grassroots members nationwide.

At its Annual Business Meeting on August 10, the ACE Board of Directors voted to re-elect two board members and add four new representatives to its Board of Directors. Keith Finney, representing the North Dakota Corn Growers Association, and Brian Wilcox, representing Nebraska Public Power District, were both re-elected to their respective board seats.

Newly elected to the ACE Board are:

- **Randy Hahn**, representing the Renewable Products Marketing Group (RPMG)
- **Ron Alverson**, representing Dakota Ethanol
- **Russ Newman**, representing Tharaldson Ethanol
- **Kirk Schaunaman**, representing the South Dakota Corn Utilization Council

Hahn is CEO of RPMG, an ethanol and co-products marketing firm in Shakopee, MN that is owned by 11 producer-owned ethanol plants. Alverson is a farmer from Chester, SD and Chairman of Lake Area Corn Processors, the co-op behind Dakota Ethanol, the 50 mgy plant near Wentworth, SD. Newman is Vice President of Tharaldson Ethanol, the 120 mgy plant near Casselton, ND. Schaunaman is a corn grower from Aberdeen, SD.

“ACE is proud to continue our unique mission of being the grassroots voice for ethanol, and we’re strengthening that position by adding these well-respected and independent voices to our Board of Directors,” said Brian Jennings, Executive Vice President of ACE. “Now more than ever it’s important to have a strong grassroots base, and our Board helps us deliver on the promise of bringing the voices of all ethanol supporters to the table.”

Officer positions on the ACE Board are currently filled by Merle Anderson, Secretary; Owen Jones, Treasurer; and Brian Wilcox, President. Wilcox has served as Vice President and then became Acting Board President earlier this year when the position was vacated by Bob Scott, whose company, POET Ethanol Products, resigned from the Board. POET and its representative Jeff Broin also resigned from the Board earlier this year to devote more time to the new trade association he formed in 2008.

The ACE Board elects officers each year at its November meeting. The full board roster can be viewed at <http://www.ethanol.org/index.php?id=32&parentid=7>.

On Tuesday, August 11, the ACE Ethanol Conference kicked off with a press conference announcing the “Blend Your Own Ethanol” national blender pump campaign, a partnership between ACE, the Renewable Fuels Association, and leading corn-producing states. Read the full press release for details about the campaign and its goal of installing 5,000 new blender pumps across America:

http://www.ethanol.org/pdf/contentmgmt/BYOethanol_final_press_release_8112009.pdf

On August 12 and 13, conference attendees heard from industry leaders on a variety of timely and important topics. ACE Executive Vice President Brian Jennings and Vice President / Market Development Ron Lamberty provided opening remarks, which are recapped on ACE's blog at www.ethanol.typepad.com.

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The conference keynote address was provided by Dallas Tonsager, Under Secretary for Rural Development at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Read his remarks here: http://ethanol.typepad.com/my_weblog/2009/08/dallas-tonsager-optimistic-of-ethanol-rural-communities.html

A session on “More Mileage with Ethanol?” was presented by Luke Cruff, Chief Engineer for the Gasoline Products Group at Ricardo, a leading provider of technology and engineering solutions for the automotive industry. Cruff reported on the “Ethanol-Boosted Direct Injection” project which is finding success in making E85 fuel have closer to the same efficiency as gasoline. Read more details in this report: http://ethanol.typepad.com/my_weblog/2009/08/more-mileage-with-ethanol.html

Two experts in lifecycle emissions analysis debated the merits of various methods to calculate international land use change (ILUC), a hot topic in the ethanol industry today given California’s passage of a low carbon fuels standard and EPA’s rulemaking for the Renewable Fuels Standard 2, policies that both include ILUC charges against biofuels’ carbon footprint. Professor Wally Tyner, energy economist in the Agricultural Economics Department at Purdue University, and Tom Darlington, President of Air Improvement Resource (AIR) Inc. both spoke on the topic, summarized here: http://ethanol.typepad.com/my_weblog/2009/08/experts-debate-methods-for-calculating-international-land-use-change.html

Three leading ethanol companies spoke on their progress toward commercializing cellulosic ethanol. Conference attendees heard from POET, Range Fuels, and TMO Renewables on their respective projects, processes, and timelines for completion. [Read more here: http://ethanol.typepad.com/my_weblog/2009/08/leading-ethanol-companies-are-making-cellulosic-ethanol-happen-today.html](http://ethanol.typepad.com/my_weblog/2009/08/leading-ethanol-companies-are-making-cellulosic-ethanol-happen-today.html)

The conference concluded with remarks from Joel Velasco, the Brazil sugarcane industry association’s (UNICA) chief representative in North America. Velasco discussed how Brazil has achieved having 46 percent of its energy use from renewable sources and having flex fuel vehicles and ethanol being the preferred products in its marketplace. A report on Velasco’s remarks can be found here: http://ethanol.typepad.com/my_weblog/2009/08/brazils-sugarcane-industry-rep-speaks-at-ace-ethanol-conference.html

ACE is the nation’s largest ethanol advocacy association, with nearly 1,500 members nationwide, including farmers, ethanol producers, industry suppliers, rural electric co-ops, the agriculture community, and others supportive of ethanol.

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The American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) is the grassroots voice of the U.S. ethanol industry, a national trade association for the ethanol industry with nearly 1,600 members nationwide, including farmers, ethanol producers, commodity organizations, businesses supplying goods and services to the ethanol industry, rural electric cooperatives, and individuals supportive of increased production and use of ethanol. For more information about ethanol or ACE, visit www.ethanol.org or call (605) 334-3381.