



## American Composites Manufacturers Association

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Dear Industry Colleague:

As you know, ACMA is committed to protecting our industry from unwarranted regulations that put our companies at risk. From the MACT regulations in the 1990s to various regulation initiatives in the states, ACMA has been there to defend our companies. And the record of all of us working together through our association has been stellar. Defending the responsible use of styrene in making our products is our association's greatest regulatory challenge and we need more resources.

Despite several recent independent expert reviews that found *no concern for styrene and cancer*, the National Toxicology Program (NTP) recently has made a preliminary finding of "reasonably anticipated carcinogen" on styrene. Composites manufacturers are very concerned that if this finding for styrene is finalized, it will raise concerns with our workforce, their families, and the communities in which our facilities are located.

ACMA is taking the threat seriously. The leadership and the professional staff have mobilized on the issue. We have assembled a coalition of associations whose members manufacture or use styrene in their products. We have built a compelling argument and taken it to Capitol Hill.

Right now we are at a critical junction. ACMA, like our companies, has been crippled by the recession. We have cut staff and program funding by 25 percent. We have protected our advocacy capabilities and are deploying them aggressively. However, this is arguably the biggest issue we have ever faced and the ACMA leadership and I are very concerned that we don't have the resources to fully address that threat.

To my knowledge, ACMA has never gone to its general membership to ask for additional funds, but these are extraordinary times. While our companies have been weakened by the economy, they could be destroyed by this issue.

Therefore, I am asking you to contribute an additional 15 percent of your annual dues to assure victory on this issue. This contribution is completely voluntary and it is a suggested amount. We welcome all contributions. Please use the attached form to indicate your contribution and return with your payment to ACMA today. The ACMA Board has already established a separate fund for what we collect to ensure that your contribution is used exclusively to help educate Members of Congress.

This leads to my second request. I need you to send a letter to your Member of Congress and two Senators calling on them to sign a Congressional letter regarding the flawed styrene assessments. ACMA is leading a major effort to quickly get signatures and it is critical that Members of Congress hear from composites manufacturers on this issue right now. Please rewrite it in your own words and on your corporate letterhead and then fax a copy to your representatives and to ACMA at 703-525-0743 so we can follow up. All the information you need, including the sample letter, is available at <http://www.acmanet.org/ga/composites-advocacy.cfm>.

This letter and your contribution are critical to your business and to your success. Please take action today by sending your check and writing your Members of Congress. Finally, if you have a personal relationship with your Member of Congress, please contact Tom Dobbins, CAE, of ACMA at 703-682-1656 or by e-mail at [tdobbins@acmanet.org](mailto:tdobbins@acmanet.org).

On behalf of the leadership of ACMA and the rest of the industry I want to thank you for your support and your action. Together we can protect our industry.

Sincerely,

Monty Felix  
President, ACMA

P.S. Your contribution will be put to work right away to assure success, so please act quickly. *Note: Your contribution is not tax deductible.*