



Fertilizer Safety & Security Council
Conseil de la sécurité en fertilisation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Fertilizer Industry Launches Industry's Ammonium Nitrate Online Training Course

Ottawa, May 24, 2011- Canadian fertilizer retailers who sell ammonium nitrate can now provide their employees with the training and information to assist in complying with federal security regulations and the industry Code of Practice. A new ammonium nitrate security training course is now available on the *GrowZone* training platform.

The course was developed by the Fertilizer Safety and Security Council (FSSC) in partnership with Natural Resources Canada. It is based on requirements under the Restricted Components Regulations and FSSC's Ammonium Nitrate Code of Practice. The course is designed to implement recommendations based on an audit of the FSSC's Ammonium Nitrate Code of Practice which took place in 2010 following an unauthorized sale. It provides retailer staff who sell ammonium nitrate with critical information on how to keep proper records and preventing unauthorized sales. The course is offered in both English and in French.

"By taking the course, retailers will reaffirm their commitment to keeping their employees, their communities, and the Canadian public safe from the misuse of ammonium nitrate," said David Finlayson, Executive Director of the FSSC. "The federal regulations for restricted components and the Ammonium Nitrate Code of Practice remain a solid security structure for ammonium nitrate fertilizer products."

Ammonium nitrate is a valuable fertilizer product used by farmers to grow wholesome food. However, it can also be used as a component in explosives. This is the reason the industry treats any possible misuse of ammonium nitrate very seriously.

The *GrowZone* training platform provides continuing education to the fertilizer industry. Along with this ammonium nitrate security training course, other modules on *GrowZone* include: training for truck drivers and managers on driver fatigue management. New training courses will continue to be added. These online training courses are available at <http://growzone.cfi.ca>.

The Canadian Fertilizer Institute is an industry association representing manufacturers, wholesale and retail distributors of nitrogen, phosphate, potash and sulphur fertilizers. Our mission is to be the unified voice of the Canadian fertilizer industry by promoting the responsible, sustainable and safe production, distribution and use of fertilizers. Our industry employs 12,000 Canadians and contributes \$12 billion annually to Canada's economy. Our products contribute to the supply of safe, nutritious food in Canada and around the world.