

First Ever IFA Global Safety Summit in Bahrain

Paris, France: 15 October 2008

The International Fertilizer Industry Association will convene its first Global Safety Summit from 14 to 18 March 2009. This leading event will take place in Bahrain with the participation of more than 200 delegates from international fertilizer companies and leading experts in the field of production safety. The Summit is hosted by Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC), one of IFA's flagship members regarding safety.

Safety, health and security are among the corporate priorities in many fertilizer companies. Having happy, healthy, and productive employees is a key competitive factor for producers worldwide. *"It is not only important from a moral perspective to guarantee the well-being of its workers, but it is also profitable from an operational point of view"*, says Luc Maene, Director General of IFA.

The aim of the Summit is to establish the mindset of "Safety First" in fertilizer production and share best practices. The latest management techniques and technology solutions that lead to safe and secure production environments will be showcased by operators from Asia, Europe, the Middle East and North America.

During the three-day programme, IFA member company leaders, CEOs along with safety experts will address topics, such as the role of safety leadership, continual safety improvement, safety management systems, behavioral based safety and accident investigation techniques. The discussions will help to cement the fertilizer industry's commitment to safety.

"This inaugural summit will highlight the importance of safety leadership from the CEO level to the shopfloor. In this respect, the Arab Gulf Region is strongly committed to be the leader and driver in our industry", says Abdulrahman Jawahery, Chairman of the IFA Technical Committee and General Manager of GPIC. On this occasion, the host company GPIC will organize a site visit to its award-winning ammonia-urea-methanol production facility.

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