

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**9/24/2012**

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**GABRIEL PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS SURPASSES  
CHEMSTEWARDS® REQUIREMENTS**  
*Qualifies for SOCMA's "Excellence" Ranking*

Ashtabula, Ohio – Gabriel Performance Products Ashtabula facility announced today that as a result of exceeding key performance requirements for the Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates' (SOCMA) ChemStewards® program, it has qualified for the program's highest ranking, known as the Excellence Tier.

Gabriel is being recognized for its successful efforts to go above and beyond the minimum for federal Environmental, Health, Safety and Security (EHS&S) compliance, build customer confidence and community trust, and strengthen product stewardship.

"We congratulate Gabriel for this achievement, which proves their commitment to continuous improvement in EHS&S performance," said Lawrence D. Sloan, SOCMA's President and CEO. "Gabriel's customers, workers and community should take comfort in the fact that their supplier, employer or neighbor is operating above expectations in conformance with regulatory requirements."

ChemStewards® is an industry-developed EHS&S program designed for the batch, custom and specialty chemicals industry. It was created from industry's commitment to continuous improvement and to reducing the environmental footprint left by members' facilities. The program is based on a three-tier system with key performance requirements per tier. Tier one is known as Fundamental and tier two is Enhanced Performance – the standard tier for ChemStewards® participants. To qualify for Excellence, or tier three, facilities must sign core principles, complete security requirements, meet specific metrics obligations and requirements, have one documented management review meeting, and complete a third-party verification of management systems at the Enhanced Performance level.

SOCMA is the only U.S.-based trade association dedicated solely to the batch, custom and specialty chemical industry. Since 1921, we have represented a diverse membership of small, medium and large chemical companies, making us the leading authority on this sector. SOCMA has a global membership of 220 companies, which employ more than 46,000 workers in the U.S. alone. The value of the products and services provided by SOCMA members is \$24 billion, and the industry's impact on the U.S. GDP is upwards of \$2.9 trillion. For more information on our services and products, please visit [www.socma.com](http://www.socma.com).

ChemStewards® is SOCMA's flagship environmental, health, safety and security (EHS&S) continuous performance improvement program. ChemStewards was created from industry's commitment to reducing our environmental footprint. Industry created ChemStewards to meet the unique needs of the batch, custom, and specialty chemical industry. As a mandatory requirement for SOCMA members engaged in the manufacturing or handling of chemicals, ChemStewards is helping participants reach for superior EHS&S performance. To learn more visit [www.chemstewards.com](http://www.chemstewards.com).

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