

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 10, 2005

Asmark Institute Announces First Board of Directors

Owensboro, Kentucky -- The Asmark Institute today announced the members of their first Board of Directors will be **J. Billy Pirkle**, Managing Director Environmental, Health & Safety for Royster-Clark, Inc., **Denis Doonan**, Manager Operating Compliance-EHS for Crop Production Services, Inc., **David Cecil**, Operations Manager for Miles Farm Supply, Inc., **Brian Miller**, Manager Environmental Auditing for Agrium Retail, **David Martin**, Manager Environmental, Health & Safety for Tennessee Farmers Cooperative, **Jean Payne**, President of the Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association and **Allen Summers**, President of the Asmark Institute.

Pamela Guffain, Director Government Relations with The Fertilizer Institute, **Richard Gupton**, Director of Legislative Policy & Counsel for the Agricultural Retailers Association, **Tom Hall**, Stewardship Policy Leader for CropLife America and **Lloyd Burling**, Immediate Past President of the Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association, will serve in advisory positions on the Board.

"The first Board of Directors for the new Institute represents more than 300 years combined experience in agriculture and compliance", said Allen Summers, President of the Asmark Institute. "We are extremely pleased to announce the Board and begin the process of developing the new organization." The first Board meeting is scheduled for March 24th, 2005.

The Asmark Institute acts as a resource center for compliance materials and services, develops common sense solutions to new regulatory requirements, monitors enforcement activity for uniformity, and supports industry efforts to ward off adverse regulation. The Institute is a private, non-profit organization that provides a forum for state and national organizations to effectively collaborate on issues for the benefit of the nation's agricultural retailers.

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Asmark Institute:

The Asmark Institute is the leading resource center for agricultural retailers in the United States. Working exclusively through the state associations and in cooperation with the national organizations, the Institute acts as a resource center for compliance materials and services, develops common sense solutions to new regulatory requirements, monitors enforcement activity for uniformity, and supports industry efforts to ward off adverse regulation. The Institute is a private, non-profit organization that provides a forum for state and national organizations to effectively collaborate on issues for the benefit of the nation's agricultural retailers.

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