

# *News Release*



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 30, 2014

Owensboro, Kentucky - The new Ford B. West Center for Responsible Agriculture in Owensboro, Kentucky was launched on Monday, October 27, 2014. 120 people attended the dedication ceremony to commemorate the launch and to honor Mr. West. Mr. West served as the President of The Fertilizer Institute (TFI), a national organization representing the agricultural nutrient industry. He retired in 2013 after 34 years of service to TFI and the industry.

"Ford B. West is known throughout the U.S. for his impeccable integrity, tireless work ethic and an inherent ability to quickly dissect complicated issues into a simple plan of action. It is very fitting that we honor him by creating a first-of-its-kind learning center that advances safety and compliance for the ag industry," said Allen Summers, President of the Asmark Institute.

Crop Production Services (CPS) donated the retired facility to the Asmark Institute to help make this national training center possible. The facility will be used as a national training and education center for personnel employed in the agricultural inputs industry, including the training of auditors for the new ResponsibleAg stewardship initiative. The first ResponsibleAg Auditor's Course followed the launch.

**Asmark Institute:**

Asmark Institute is a national resource center serving the retail agricultural industry, consisting of retail agribusinesses, state and national trade associations, educational institutions and government agencies. The Institute provides compliance materials and services, develops common sense solutions to new regulatory requirements, assists the government in its mission of protecting life, property and the environment, monitors enforcement activity for uniformity, supports industry efforts to arrive at fair and reasonable regulation and provides a wealth of unique resources to give wings to the ideas designed to help lift an industry. The Institute is a private, not-for-profit organization that provides a forum for organizations to effectively collaborate on issues for the benefit of the retail agricultural industry.