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Nanofilm's Rickert advances nanotechnology issues with federal policymakers

Commercialization, Competitiveness and Environment are key issues of NanoBusiness Alliance Washington, D.C. Public Policy Tour, February 15-17, 2006

February 13, 2006 – Valley View, Ohio – Dr. Scott Rickert, President and CEO of Nanofilm, is joining with 28 other nanotechnology corporate leaders, academics and regional development professoinals to focus the attention of legislators and executive branch policymakers on key issues facing the American nanotechnology field. The public policy tour, sponsored by the NanoBusiness Alliance, the leading voice of for the nanotech industry, will be in Washington, D.C. February 15-17, 2006.

"Leadership in nanotechnology is a key component of American competitiveness in the next decade," said Nanofilm's Rickert. "We're meeting one-on-one with decision makers who will set the roadmap that decides if America is to realize the potential."

Key objectives of the policy tour include:

- Maintaining American competitiveness by increasing the available capital for nanotech businesses and reducing the cost of commercialization-focused investments.
- Providing insight to the crafting of Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) regulations that allow progress in the industry while satisfying EH&S concerns and engendering public trust.
- Engaging in partnerships with the National Nanotechnology Initiative and its constituent agencies to promote commercialization and develop knowledge.

The representatives will meet with the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; The Senate Committee on Science and Technology; The House Science Committee; and individual Congressional leaders. Sessions with the Executive Branch leadership include the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the National Science and Technology Council, Committee on Technology Subcommittee on Nanoscale Science, Engineering and Technology.

The group will present several proposals for consideration:

- Nanotech Investment Tax Credit for application and product-focused R& D to ensure U.S. competitiveness in a world where foreign competitors enjoy subsidies.
- Reference Materials Library through funding to the National Institute of Standards and Technology to begin characterization of a set of reference nanomaterials including naturally occurring, incidentally produced, and engineered nanomaterials.
- Funding to address the gap between nanotech development and nanotech EH&S research, allocating 10% of federally funded research dollars, or $100 million annually.

About Nanofilm

Founded in 1985, Nanofilm develops proprietary films and partners with companies to formulate custom coatings or reformulate existing coatings to add new properties. Our technology portfolio solves problems requiring optically clear, thin (nanometers to microns) coatings, self-assembling nano-layers, and nanocomposites. Core competencies include nanoparticle selection; functionalization and coating formulation; technology in siloxanes, acrylics and urethanes on plastic, glass, textile and others substrates; expertise in surface chemistry and physics; application development. Functional properties include: hydrophobic, hydrophilic, anti-static, UV resistant or rejecting, anti-reflective, anti-microbial, infrared resistant or rejecting, abrasion resistant, chemical resistant, self cleaning, electrically conducting, functional selectively over broad temperature ranges. www.nanofilm.cc

About The NanoBusiness Alliance

The NanoBusiness Alliance is the first industry association founded to advance the emerging business of nanotechnology and Microsystems. The NanoBusiness Alliance's mission is to create a collective voice for the emerging small tech industry and develop a range of initiatives to support and strengthen the nanotechnology business community, including: Research and Education; Public Policy; Public Awareness, Public Relations, and Promotions; Forums/Panels; Industry Support. www.nanobusiness.org