



# American Coke and Coal Chemicals Institute

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **ACCCI PRESENTS SAFETY AWARDS TO AK STEEL'S ASHLAND AND MIDDLETOWN PLANTS**

Washington, D.C. — The American Coke and Coal Chemicals Institute (ACCCI) announced that its annual Max Eward Safety Award for 2008 will be presented to the employees of both the Ashland, Kentucky and Middletown, Ohio cokemaking facilities of AK Steel Corp. This is the first time the award was shared by two plants. It is the eleventh time in the past twelve years that AK Steel coke operations have been the recipient of this award, which has been presented annually for twenty-one years.

ACCCI Chairman Gary L. Gross explained that the purpose of the award is to inspire and encourage member companies to improve their industrial safety programs and prevent personal injuries. "For a fourth year in a row, the award goes to AK Steel's Ashland Works, but it is also shared jointly this year with AK's Middletown Works, which has won the award seven times previously," commented Gross. "Neither the Ashland nor Middletown coke plants had a single OSHA lost workday case in 2008. AK's employees have demonstrated a true dedication to safety in our industry." Gross is Vice President, Steel Business Unit of DTE Energy Services.

In acknowledging receipt of the awards, James L. Wainscott, chairman, president and CEO of AK Steel, said "It is truly an historic achievement to have two AK Steel facilities earn this honor in the same year, which further demonstrates AK Steel's commitment to safety as our company's highest priority."

The award is presented annually to the ACCCI-member coke plant which achieves the lowest incidence rate for worker injuries and illnesses. Max Eward was chairman of ACCCI's Manufacturing, Environment, Health and Safety Committee for many years prior to his retirement from Sloss Industries Corp. in 1987. The 2008 awards will be presented at ACCCI's 2009 Annual Meeting.

ACCCI is the international trade association which represents the producers of metallurgical coke (both merchant and integrated), tar distillers, chemical processors, metallurgical coal producers, coal and coke sales agents, and suppliers of goods and services to the industry.