Our people are the heart of FMC’s sustainability culture. Every day, more than 5,600 employees around the world are shaping innovative solutions that meet present and future customer needs. Whether we are enhancing food production, helping to improve human health and nutrition, or contributing to a more sustainable energy supply, we are always mindful of our responsibility to conserve natural resources, give back to the communities where we operate, and keep our employees safe.

We have embraced a new approach to R&D that requires a thorough evaluation of the potential sustainability impact before new products or applications are developed. Three years ago, we set a 2015 goal to allocate at least 50 percent of our R&D spending to projects that positively impact one or more of our five global sustainability challenges. We surpassed our goal in 2013.

I am also pleased to report steady progress last year in safety and community engagement. In 2013, our Total Recordable Incidence Rate was 0.41, well on our way to the 2015 goal of 0.37. And our Community Engagement Index rose to 83, on a steady path to reaching our 2015 target of 90.

Equally important, in 2013 we continued to integrate sustainability into our business processes.

Specifically, we:

- Expanded our vendor selection process to ensure suppliers meet our expectations regarding legal compliance, environmental, health, safety, ethical, human dignity and fair labor practices.
- Further integrated sustainability into our stage gate process for new product development.
- Included sustainability in our Capital Deployment Process.

Companies that are flexible are often in the best position to embrace change, whether it means incorporating sustainability into decision making or pursuing a new company structure. Today, FMC is in the midst of significant change. In March 2014, we announced plans to separate into two independent, public companies: a new FMC Corporation that consists of our Agricultural Solutions and Health and Nutrition businesses; and FMC Minerals, comprised of our Alkali Chemicals and Lithium businesses. This realignment is a natural progression of our Vision 2015 strategic plan, providing greater freedom for each company to optimize its respective business model. Although each company will serve different markets with its own experienced management team and talented workforce, both will inherit a common sustainability DNA that has become a defining characteristic of today’s FMC. The marketplace will soon have two FMC legacy companies with solid frameworks in place to measure and maintain sustainability progress.

We are proud of our accomplishments, but we know there is more we can do to lessen our environmental footprint, broaden our sustainable product portfolio, improve safety and strengthen our community relationships. We accept these challenges and look forward to addressing them with our customers and in the communities where we operate throughout the world.

Pierre Brondeau
President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board