



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DEBORAH GRUBBE APPOINTED CHAIR OF
INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

Engineer and executive will lead efforts to further sustainability in industrial operations.

NEW YORK, NY – The Institute for Sustainability (IfS), a technological community within the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), has announced that Deborah L. Grubbe has been appointed its 2010 chair. Commenting on her appointment, Grubbe said that “advancing the use of sustainability concepts, tools and measurements is critical to meeting both business’s interests and society’s needs.”

Grubbe is owner and president of Operations and Safety Solutions, LLC, a consulting firm that specializes in enhancing returns from both hard and soft assets. She is the former vice president of group safety for BP plc, which had its two safest years under her watch. Before her stint with BP, Grubbe spent 27 years with DuPont, where she held corporate director positions in safety, operations and engineering.

IfS, through its conferences, publications, research programs, and its AIChE Sustainability Indexsm, approaches sustainability from the perspectives of engineers and scientists dedicated to promoting, the societal, economic, and environmental benefits of sustainable engineering. In announcing the appointment, AIChE Executive Director June Wispelwey said that “Deb’s energy, enthusiasm, and experience guarantee that our efforts will have a strong and distinguished leader at a time when interest in sustainability is growing and policies and technologies are changing.”

Grubbe is a member of the NASA Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel, and served as a consultant on safety culture to the Columbia Shuttle Accident Investigation Board. She is also a member of the National Safety Council’s Board of Trustees and a former chair of the National Institute for Standards and Technology’s Visiting Committee for Advanced Technology. She currently serves on the Purdue University College of Engineering Dean’s Advisory Council and is a member of the FIRST Robotics Board of Directors. She is working with the National Academy of Sciences as a member of the Closure Committee supporting the demilitarization of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile. Formerly, Grubbe served as a member of the AIChE Board of Directors and on the Management Board of AIChE’s Center for Chemical Process Safety.

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Active in community affairs, Grubbe has been president of the Chesapeake Bay Girl Scout Council and is currently a member of its President's Advisory Council.

After earning a bachelor of science in chemical engineering with highest distinction from Purdue University, Grubbe received a Winston Churchill Fellowship to Cambridge University in England, where she received a certificate of post-graduate study in chemical engineering. She is a registered professional engineer in Delaware and a chartered engineer in the U.K.

About the Institute for Sustainability

Established by AIChE in 2004, IfS's mission is to serve the needs—and influence the efforts—of professionals, academics, companies and government agencies that contribute to the advancement of sustainability and sustainable development. Participants in IfS come from a broad spectrum of industries and disciplines. To learn more, visit <http://www.aiche.org/IFS/About/Index.aspx>.