EXHIBIT 5
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HB 440

You, too, Can Work for a Drug Free America: Keep Anhydrous Ammonia Safe and Secure!

The Problem

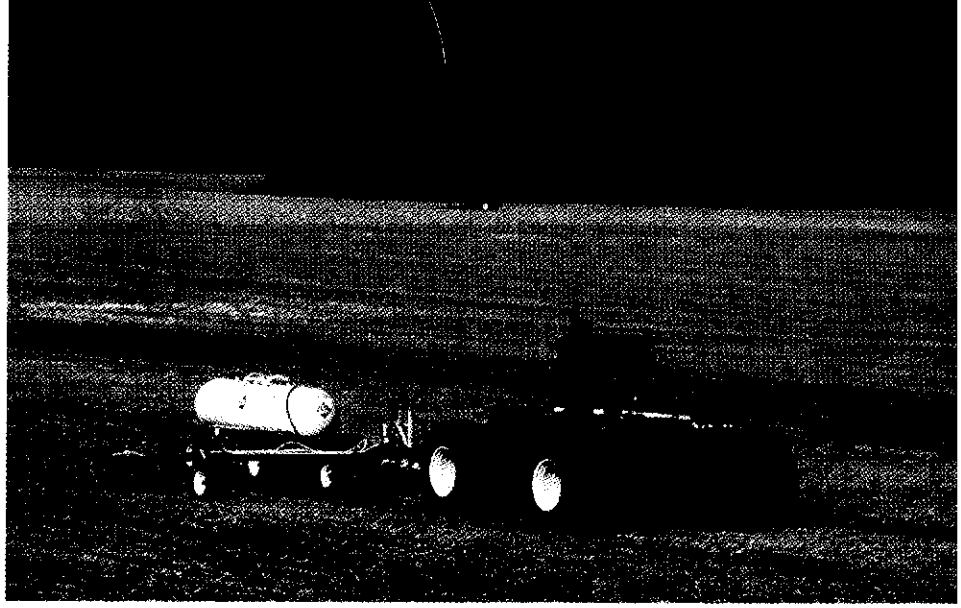
Theft of anhydrous ammonia fertilizer for production of the illegal drug methamphetamine has reached alarming proportions in the last few years. Once most common in the West and Southwest, this powerful, highly addictive nerve stimulant can be found throughout the Midwest and in virtually every metropolitan area of the country.

Also known as "speed," "crank," "chalk," and "zip," meth can be smoked, injected, snorted or taken orally. It produces an initial "high" which is difficult if not impossible for the user to repeat on subsequent occasions.

Meth is imported by drug traffickers or manufactured in small, clandestine laboratories using recipes involving precursor chemicals derived from various consumer products, including cold medicines, drain cleaners, battery acid and matches. The problem is magnified by the ease with which these materials can be purchased in retail stores. In one common technique called the "Nazi method," lithium extracted from batteries and anhydrous ammonia are used to convert ephedrine from over-the-counter cold remedies to make methamphetamine.

Curbing the Spread

Communities everywhere are attempting to curb the spread of this dangerous substance through increased law enforcement efforts, education and addiction treatment programs. The fertilizer industry is concerned with the devastating impact this illegal drug has on the moral fiber of our nation's communities and for this reason, we are working diligently to prevent theft of anhydrous ammonia.



Steps for Retailers

Fertilizer dealers can help to keep anhydrous ammonia safe and secure by taking the following precautions:

- Never sell ammonia in an unapproved container or without a delivery address;
- Immediately report releases to local police and/or emergency responders;
- Store anhydrous ammonia tanks in high-traffic areas illuminated with cost-effective motion sensor security lights;
- Report any suspicious activity at your facility to law enforcement authorities;
- Know your inventory and keep careful records of nurse tanks using identification numbers and recording the weight of remaining product;
- Visually inspect anhydrous tanks every morning but especially following weekends, when most thefts occur;
- Facilitate inspections by storing tanks with their flow valves facing drive lanes;
- Use brightly colored plastic ties or wire seals between tank valve wheels and roll cages to ease safety checks;
- Close driveways and access roads with gates or other barriers;
- Work with local police and law enforcement agencies to evaluate on-site security; encourage frequent, night-time patrols;
- Be alert. Keep an eye out for unfamiliar or suspicious-looking persons attempting to purchase anhydrous ammonia;
- report all suspicious activity to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.
- Don't forget to report air releases that constitute reporting to the appropriate government agencies.

Actions for Farmers

Farmers can help to keep anhydrous ammonia on the land, where it belongs, by taking these simple steps:

- Be alert. Keep an eye out for unfamiliar or suspicious persons attempting to purchase anhydrous ammonia from you or your neighbors;
- Don't leave tanks unattended for long periods of time;
- Immediately report releases to local police and/or emergency responders;
- Position tanks in open areas where they can be easily seen from the road;
- Return tanks immediately after use;
- Do not store tanks and toolbars inside buildings, in livestock containment houses or near the farm house;
- Inspect and record the condition of nurse tanks upon delivery, again, after use and upon return to the dealer.

Watch for the Warning Signs!

Farmers, dealers and all who are concerned about the theft of anhydrous ammonia for the manufacture of illegal drugs should watch for the following:

- Partially opened tank valves and/or leaking tanks;
- Common items associated with and often left behind after theft including buckets, coolers, duct tape, garden hoses and bicycle inner tubes;
- The presence of unfamiliar or suspicious-looking individuals during daylight hours (thieves often check out the property beforehand);
- The sure signs of Meth labs, including strong odors, blacked-out windows (to obstruct observation) and large amounts of trash.

Preventing Theft by Working Together

Protecting anhydrous ammonia for its intended beneficial use as a fertilizer is to everyone's benefit. By following the guidelines contained in this publication, you can ensure anhydrous ammonia continues to play a valuable role in our nation's food production system. The fertilizer industry is cooperating with Federal and local law enforcement officials in efforts to keep ammonia in the right hands.

For additional information on industry efforts to prevent theft of anhydrous ammonia, please contact
The Fertilizer Institute at 202/962-0490 or www.tfi.org.