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## **Humic Products Trade Association Formed**

Fifteen leaders within the North American humic products industry have formed the Humic Products Trade Association (HPTA), a 501 c (6) non-profit organization. The purpose of this association is to encourage education and training on humic product issues in the areas of science, technology, marketing and regulation.

Humic products have a wide variety of uses in cropland agriculture, livestock, human nutrition, environmental remediation and industry. Humic products include naturally occurring mined materials such as leonardite, oxidized lignite and humates, liquid products such as liquid humic acid and liquid fulvic acid, and soluble or suspendible powders and gels.

President Lawrence Mayhew, owner of Eco Agri-Minerals, says, "We're finding as there is more demand for humic products, there is also more need for education and compliance. The timing for establishing this network and collecting data is appropriate."

The first general meeting of the HPTA will be held at 4:00 PM Thursday, December 9, 2010 in the Columbus Room at the Marriot in Indianapolis, IN during the Acres U.S.A. Conference and Trade Show. Anyone interested in humic products is encouraged to attend.

To date, the group has commissioned a laboratory to develop a quantitative method for determining the humic and fulvic contents of commercial liquid products, begun discussions with three federal regulatory agencies, and developed platforms for networking among the industry.

A steering committee began meeting in April of 2008, when they established a board of directors, committees, bylaws, a code of ethics, a list of objectives, priorities and marketing materials.

Current HPTA members represent miners, processors, manufacturers, distributors and retailers.

The Board of Directors are:

Lawrence Mayhew, HPTA President, Eco-Agri Minerals,

John Lown, HPTA Vice President, Earth Green, Dallas, TX

Steve Azzarello, HPTA Secretary/Treasurer AMCOL International, Chicago, IL

Dan Olk, HPTA Scientific Advisor USDA – ARS, Ames, IA

Russell Taylor, Live Earth Products, Emery, UT

Cherie Harms, Leonardite Products, Williston, ND

Additional founding members also include:

Bruce Reid, Mesa Verde Resources, Placitas, NM

Andy Thompson, Midwestern Bio-Ag, Blue Mounds, WI

Michael Suttle, JDMV Holdings, Houston, TX

Douglas Phelps, Horizon Ag Products, Modesto, CA

Craig Dick, Calcium Products, Gilmore City, IA

Ed Straw, Black Earth, Edmonton, Alberta

Bill Zimmer, Bio-Vet, Blue Mounds, WI

Daman Walia, ARCHTECH, Chantilly, VA

To learn more or to become a member of HPTA visit [www.humictrade.org](http://www.humictrade.org) or contact one the members listed above.