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SCF Arizona Board Approves \$3.5 Million Dividend

PHOENIX – SCF Arizona will pay out safety dividends for a 40th consecutive year, as the company's Board of Directors approved a \$3.5 million payout for 2010 to qualified policyholders.

The safety dividend program began in 1969, and since it was established, SCF Arizona has returned more than \$1.2 billion to qualified policyholders for maintaining safe workplaces.

"We are pleased to be able to give back \$3.5 million to our policyholders, who will spend these dividends in their local communities and help Arizona's economy," said SCF Board Chair Judith Patrick.

SCF Arizona President & CEO Don Smith noted that policyholders in three of SCF Arizona subsidiaries – SCF Premier Insurance Co., SCF American Insurance Co., and SCF Western Insurance Co. – now receive upfront savings on their premiums rather than a dividend at the back end.

The amount paid to each qualified policyholder will depend on its annual premium and record of workplace injury claims.

"Dividends are never guaranteed," Smith said. "The Board bases its decision on SCF's financial performance for the year and the conditions in the marketplace, and we all know Arizona's economy continues to grow at a very slow pace."

"The Board's action, however, reflects our commitment to support local businesses and allows us to reward our safest SCF Arizona customers," Smith said. "And it's a credit to our employees and our Board that through our emphasis on workplace safety, quality claims management and our efforts to keep premiums among the lowest in the nation, that we are able again to provide a dividend to our qualifying policyholders; they've earned it," Smith said.