**THE FLUOROPOLYMER INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES**

A SOCIOECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE

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**Unique Combination of Properties**

Fluoropolymers are polymers with fluorine atoms directly attached to their carbon backbone. Fluoropolymers are materials that possess a unique combination of properties, making them more efficient, versatile and critical to the products that they enable.

These include:

- Fire Resistant
- High Performance Electrical Insulator
- Weather Resistant
- Non-Wetting
- Non-Stick
- Temperature Resistant
- Chemically Resistant

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**Fluoropolymers By the Numbers**

- **1,500** Direct Jobs
- **13,500** Indirect Jobs
- **Hundreds of thousands** of additional jobs are supported by industries that rely on fluoropolymers.

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**$520M**

Trade Surplus

**$150M**

Research & Development

(6.4% of revenue of interviewed companies)

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**MEDICAL AND FIRST RESPONDERS: A CLOSER LOOK**

Fluoropolymers play a critical role in modern medicine and support for our first responders. Fluoropolymers’ unique characteristics enable a wide range of medical equipment used by families across the country, as well as provide superior protection from injury and death for firefighters.

**1,056,200**

Firefighters in the U.S.

**12%**

of U.S. Employed Work in Healthcare

Benefits of Fluoropolymers to the Medical Industry and First Responders:

- Reduced risk of cross-infections and medical complications
- Increased lifetime of implants, reducing risk of failure and risk of replacement
- Higher consistency of dosages, increasing effectiveness and safety of drugs
- Less frequent clogging of catheters, tubes and stents
- Water and abrasion resistance properties

Critical Medical and First Responder Uses:

- Surgically implantable medical devices such as vascular grafts
- Heart patches
- Catheters
- Diaphragm pumps
- Membranes for filtering and venting
- Breathable membranes in first responder protective clothing