



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## JOHN KILLMER'S NEW ROLE AS HEAD OF TECHNOLOGY

Newport Beach, CA – March 17, 2009 -- American Vanguard Corporation (NYSE:AVD) today announced that John L. Killmer, PhD, a member of its Board of Directors, has been retained to assist the Company's technical development efforts as Head of Technology.

Mr. Killmer, who joined the Board in December of 2008, spent much of his career with Monsanto Company in a series of increasingly responsible research and development positions followed by an important managerial role as President of Monsanto Greater China.

Eric Wintemute, President & CEO commented, "John Killmer's extensive background in agricultural chemicals and biotech/seed operations has already allowed him to contribute to our technical understanding in his position on the Board of Directors. In this new consultancy role, John's understanding of biotechnology trends in our industry will help focus our search for crop protection chemicals that complement the increasing use of genetically modified seeds/plants."

Mr. Wintemute added, "Additionally, John's considerable technical and managerial skills will more directly guide our internal efforts to modify existing and develop new manufacturing processes which will improve production efficiency and plant utilization. He will also be responsible for continuing to develop a strong technical operations team which will enhance this department's valuable contribution to our growing organization."

Dr. Bill Feiler, AMVAC's Director of Technology, will continue to be directly involved in the Company's technical development efforts in his new capacity as Chief Scientist. Mr. Wintemute concluded, "Over the course of his career with AMVAC, Bill Feiler has been a valuable resource and leader of our technical department for the past 20 years. We are delighted that he will continue to make important contributions to our technical programs in his new assignment."

### About American Vanguard

American Vanguard Corporation is a diversified specialty and agricultural products company that develops and markets products for crop protection and non-crop applications including public and animal health. American Vanguard is included on the Russell 2000® & Russell 3000® Indexes and the Standard & Poors 600 Index. To learn more about American Vanguard, please reference the Company's web site at [www.american-vanguard.com](http://www.american-vanguard.com).

The Company, from time to time, may discuss forward-looking information. All forward-looking statements are estimates by the Company's management and are subject to various risks and uncertainties that may cause results to differ from management's current expectations. Such factors include weather conditions, changes in regulatory policy and other risks as detailed in the Company's SEC reports and filings. Any forward-looking statements in this release represent the Company's best judgment as of the date of this release.

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