

News Release

150 years



Smart energy for a sustainable future

- **Two day science symposium with international experts as part of the anniversary program in Ludwigshafen**
- **System solutions from chemistry enable eco-efficient energy supply and responsible energy utilization**
- **BASF's spending on research and development increases slightly to €1.9 billion in 2014**

Ludwigshafen, Germany – March 9, 2015 – The first of three science symposia being held by BASF in the year of its 150th anniversary will be held today and tomorrow in Ludwigshafen. More than 600 top ranking scientists from academia and business will be discussing the entire bandwidth of the title topic “Smart Energy for a Sustainable Future”. About 40 speakers will be discussing innovative options for the storage and sustainable use of energy and explaining approaches to energy-efficient chemical production. Other topics include viable future mobility, new materials for energy technologies and future energy supply. The symposium is part of the worldwide Creator Space™ program in BASF's anniversary year. About one third of the high-caliber researchers are coming from within the company itself, and two thirds from the world of academia and other cooperation partners.

“Innovative chemistry is a key enabler for the sustainable use of energy. This is apparent, for example, when it comes to obtaining affordable energy from renewable sources,” emphasized Dr. Andreas Kreimeyer, Member of the Board of Executive Directors of BASF and Research Executive Director, in his opening address. “We are more than a mere supplier of new materials. Our experts

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integrate these materials into complex system solutions and ensure that these systems are tailor-made for different applications,” explained Kreimeyer. “Cooperations along the value chain are an important precondition for implementing creative solutions in the energy sector. I am looking forward to an open exchange on our theme of common interest which is also currently dominating the public debate: smart energy for a sustainable future.”

Nobel Prize winner illustrates the global perspective

Nobel Prize winner Professor Steven Chu of Stanford University has entitled his plenary lecture “The energy, climate change and how to transition to a sustainable world”. For this ambitious topic, he can also draw on his extensive political experience as United States Secretary of Energy between 2009 and 2013. Based on his assessment of the risks of climate change, Professor Chu will discuss options to mitigate those risks by technical progress. An innovative solution for sustainable energy use will be presented by Professor Ekkes Brück of Delft University of Technology, who will be talking about magnetocaloric materials for energy-efficient heat pumps. The prototype of a cooling system using this innovative technology was just presented by BASF, Haier and Astronautics in January of this year.

Three large symposia in the global Creator Space™ program

Besides the ongoing conference in Ludwigshafen on the topic of smart energy, in the anniversary year 2015, two further science symposia will be held in other parts of the world. In Chicago, the subject of sustainable food chain will be under discussion on June 23 and 24, and in Shanghai the future of urban living on November 9 and 10. The global Creator Space™ program of BASF offers high profile scientists from around the world the opportunity to exchange their knowledge of these three central anniversary themes. The symposia thereby represent special highlights in the long series of co-creation activities through which the company networks people and ideas around the globe with the aim of jointly developing new solutions to global challenges.

The South African anniversary program

The South African 150 anniversary program also sees a strong focus on the Creator Space™ concept, as well as a number of highly interactive events being hosted throughout the region involving scientists, customers, business partners and employees. Again, the focus will be on the three strategic global topics of energy, food and urban living. Events will range from employee jamming sessions which will challenge staff across all levels to come up with innovative solutions to societal issues, to participation in leading national science festivals and competitions.

Vice President and head of BASF in South Africa and Sub-Sahara, Joan-Maria Garcia-Girona, explains: “We see our anniversary as an opportunity to open up in ways that go beyond these proven collaborations. The way innovations arise has changed considerably compared to the past. This is because of new methods of communication as well as a different self-awareness and changed expectations of people. They want to solve societal problems and make their contribution. They discuss online, on blogs and social networks. We are convinced that when we add the expertise from chemistry and other industries to these ideas, we will be closer to finding answers for the challenges of today and tomorrow. We want to initiate something new with our anniversary and try out new ways of working together over the next year – both within BASF and our external stakeholders. We see the Creator Space™ program as a great opportunity to bring BASF closer to our target groups.”

Data and facts on research and development in 2014

BASF increased research and development expenditure in 2014 by €35 million to €1,884 million (2013: €1,849 million). The operating divisions were responsible for 79 percent of the total research expenditures. The remaining 21 percent was allocated to cross-division corporate research. BASF's research pipeline comprised approximately 3,000 projects in 2014. The number of employees in research and development increased in 2014 to about 10,700 (2013: 10,650). Of these, about 6,750 worked in Germany (2013: 6,750),

7,800 in Europe (2013: 7,700), 2,150 in America (2013: 2,250) and 750 in Asia-Pacific (2013: 700).

Note on the science symposium in the internet:

You can find more information about the program and the speakers as well as the lecture abstracts in the internet at:

<https://creator-space.basf.com/energy-symposium>

About BASF in South Africa & Sub-Sahara

BASF has been doing business in South Africa over 45 years. Headquartered in Midrand, Johannesburg, the BASF Group in South Africa consists of five companies with locations in Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, and Cape Town, including a world-class automotive emission catalysts production site in Port Elizabeth. A regional sales hub for Eastern Africa, BASF East Africa Ltd., was established in Kenya in mid-2011. In July 2012 BASF West Africa Ltd, a new regional office, was opened in Lagos, Nigeria, in order to serve the West African market. BASF also recently invested in a dispersions production plant in Durban, which is producing acrylic dispersions since third quarter of 2012. Since 2013 former Becker-Underwood, now BASF Agricultural Solutions, also forms part of the group in South Africa. Recently BASF inaugurated its new production plant for concrete admixtures in Nairobi, Kenya.

The local group's portfolio includes chemicals, plastics, coatings, dispersions, agricultural products, and nutrition. BASF products are used for industrial applications in various sectors e.g. paper, packaging, and leather, detergents, cosmetics, construction, mining, agriculture, and automotive industries. The local groups' employee complement is around 1000 people. For further local information, visit www.basf.co.za.

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About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry – and have been doing so for 150 years. Our portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products and crop protection products to oil and gas. As the world's leading chemical company, we

combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. Through science and innovation, we enable our customers in nearly every industry to meet the current and future needs of society. Our products and solutions contribute to conserving resources, ensuring nutrition and improving quality of life. We have summed up this contribution in our corporate purpose: We create chemistry for a sustainable future. BASF had sales of over €74 billion in 2014 and around 113,000 employees as of the end of the year. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.basf.com.