

News Release

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BASF invests in silicate-based specialty chemicals business

- **Mid-double-digit euro million sum to be invested**
- **Consolidation of market position in the silicates business in Europe**

Düsseldorf-Holthausen – April 25, 2019 – BASF is investing a mid-range double-digit euro million sum in the modernization of its silica plant at the Düsseldorf-Holthausen site. The investment is earmarked for the modernization and improvement of existing facilities over the next ten years.

“We want to continue serving our customers with high-value silicates and support them in their growth through a further improvement in supply security. This investment also helps to meet the rising demand for silicates and strengthens our leadership in Western European markets,” said Soeren Hildebrandt, Senior Vice President, Home Care, I&I and Industrial Formulators Europe, BASF.

The silica plant in Düsseldorf-Holthausen is one of the world's largest. Silicates are produced by fusing sand and soda and have a wide range of applications, including in the manufacture of precipitated silica for use in tire making, as thickeners in mortars and plasters, in foundry molds and mineral paints, as surface sealants in the construction industry, in detergents and cleaning agents, for material impregnation and in fire retardant applications.

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About the Care Chemicals division at BASF

The BASF division Care Chemicals offers a broad range of ingredients for personal care, home care, industrial & institutional cleaning, and technical applications. We are the leading global supplier for the cosmetics industry as well as the detergents and cleaners industry, and support our customers with innovative and sustainable products, solutions and concepts. The division's high-performance product portfolio includes surfactants, emulsifiers, polymers, emollients, chelating agents, cosmetic active ingredients and UV filters. We have production and development sites in all regions and are expanding our presence in emerging markets. Further information is available online at www.care-chemicals.basf.com.

About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 122,000 employees in the BASF Group work on contributing to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio is organized into six segments: Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care and Agricultural Solutions. BASF generated sales of around €63 billion in 2018. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchange in Frankfurt (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the U.S. Further information at www.basf.com.