150 years



News Release

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."

A 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.

Page 3 P154/15e

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

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.