

# News Release



## **BASF concentrates production of XPS boards at its Verbund site in Ludwigshafen**

Ludwigshafen, Germany – July 21, 2017 - By the end of 2017, BASF will concentrate the production of XPS boards (extruded polystyrene) at its Verbund site in Ludwigshafen, Germany, which will ensure the direct supply of raw materials, optimised logistics, and direct access to research and development facilities. In view of overcapacities and low margins, the company will discontinue the production of XPS at its Schwarzheide location in Germany in the fourth quarter of this year. There will be no compulsory redundancies.

“We are implementing this measure to make sure that we remain competitive in those markets in which we are able to generate added value for our customers and for BASF in the long term”, says Klaus Ries, Head of Global Business Management Styrenic Foams at BASF. “Going forward, the full XPS product range will be available from one location, thus substantially improving our service to customers. Thanks to its state-of-the-art facilities and following numerous debottlenecking measures, Ludwigshafen offers sufficient production capacity to guarantee profitable growth.”

The welding technology developed for use on insulation boards that is currently in operation at the BASF location in Schwarzheide will be transferred to Ludwigshafen and operated from this location. This contactless, thermal welding process not only enables the manufacture of particularly thick XPS boards (BASF trade name

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Styrodur®), but also paves the way for a variety of interesting material combinations for the insulation material solutions of the future.

**About BASF**

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 114,000 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 five segments: Chemicals, Performance Products, Functional Materials & Solutions, Agricultural Solutions and Oil & Gas. BASF generated sales of about €58 billion in 2016. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (BAS). Further information at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).