



# Joint News Release

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## **BASF and Noria Energy install first of its kind floating solar system at BASF's manufacturing site in the United States**

- **Proof-of-concept system is fully operational at BASF's McIntosh, Alabama production facility**
- **The new floating solar system designed and constructed by Noria Energy uses plastic additives produced at BASF's McIntosh site to prevent degradation of pontoons**

As part of its sustainability goal of achieving net zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions<sup>1</sup> by 2050, BASF has installed an innovative proof-of-concept floating solar system at its McIntosh, Alabama manufacturing site. Noria Energy's first of its kind floating solar system uses renewable energy to power three aerators used to improve the water quality of a scenic pond at the production facility.

Floating solar energy capture offers several advantages beyond those of regular land-based solar systems including better operating efficiency due to cooler, more consistent temperatures from the surrounding water. However, the additional design and construction variables of floating solar systems typically come with a higher capital cost. Previous attempts to lower installation costs have reduced the reliability of the system when exposed to the environment. In particular, exposure to intense sunlight leads to degradation and unpredictable failure of traditional pontoons over time.

BASF's plastic additives business is collaborating with Noria Energy to address these challenges by developing a highly reliable, innovative pontoon design at a lower cost. The final product leverages BASF's broad portfolio of light stabilizers - which include UV absorbers and Hindered Amine Light Stabilizers (HALS) - that protect the polymer against degradation of harmful UV light. "The additives and antioxidants used for the pontoons and produced at our McIntosh site improve

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durability and extend the lifetime of the systems,” said Marcus Pezent, McIntosh Site Director, BASF. “We set out to develop an innovative floating solar system to drastically reduce capital requirements, including logistical costs. Working with BASF was instrumental in getting the system from concept to pilot installation in under a year, and a true testament to BASF’s commitment to their carbon-neutral goals,” said Alex Mayer, Chief Technology Officer at Noria Energy.

The pilot unit was installed with the support of the BASF North America Energy Management team who is already exploring additional locations for large scale floating installations at different BASF manufacturing sites. “These types of game-changing renewable energy initiatives reinforce our commitment to a sustainable future,” added Tejuana Edmond, Vice President, Plastic Additives Americas, BASF. “We will continue to work with our customers to help address their needs and challenges through innovation and sustainable solutions.”

<sup>1</sup>More information on [BASF's climate protection goal](#)

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### **About BASF Plastic Additives**

BASF is a leading supplier, manufacturer, and innovation partner of plastic additives. Its comprehensive and innovative product portfolio includes additives which provide ease in processing, heat and light resistance to a variety of polymers and applications including molded articles, films, fibers, sheets and extruded profiles. The portfolio is constantly analyzed, assessed and actively improved towards solutions which make a larger contribution to sustainability. More information about plastic additives: [www.plasticadditives.basf.com](http://www.plasticadditives.basf.com).

BASF plastic additives is part of BASF’s Performance Chemicals division. The division’s portfolio also includes fuel and lubricant solutions, as well as oilfield chemicals and mining solutions. Customers from a variety of industries including Chemicals, Plastics, Consumer Goods, Energy & Resources and Automotive & Transportation benefit from our innovative solutions. To learn more, visit [www.performancechemicals.basf.com](http://www.performancechemicals.basf.com).

### **About BASF**

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. More than 111,000 employees in the BASF Group

contribute to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio comprises six segments: Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care and Agricultural Solutions. BASF generated sales of €87.3 billion in 2022. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchange in Frankfurt (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the United States. Further information at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).

### **About Noria Energy**

Noria collaborates with our customers to provide adaptive solar and water solutions, empowering organizations and communities to realize their cleantech goals. Further information at [www.noriaenergy.com](http://www.noriaenergy.com). The product development was funded by an award from the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office as part of the Small Innovative Projects in Solar (SIPS)2021 Funding Program.