

150 years



News Release

BASF increases production capacity for chelating agents in Ludwigshafen

- **Expansion and flexibilization of existing production facilities for chelating agents like Trilon® M**
- **Investment responds to the rapidly growing global demand for readily biodegradable chelating agents for detergents and cleaners**
- **Expansion of global capacity for chelating agents to 170,000 metric tons per year**

Ludwigshafen, Germany – August 11, 2015 – BASF is investing in the expansion and flexibilization of its production facilities to manufacture chelating agents at its site in Ludwigshafen. By increasing the production capacity, the company is responding to the rapidly growing global demand for its chelating agents, such as the readily biodegradable Trilon® M (methylglycinediacetic acid) for use in detergents and cleaners. The project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2016.

Trilon® M as high-performance alternative to phosphate

Trilon® M is a special high-performance alternative to phosphate in automatic dishwashing detergents and is readily biodegradable. EU regulations stipulate that phosphate will be virtually prohibited for this application in Europe from 2017 on. In the US, 16 states have already banned phosphate in this application since 2010. Therefore, manufacturers of cleaning products are currently seeking suitable alternatives to this ingredient. “The market for more environmentally friendly detergents and cleaners is growing substantially,” according to Jens Kroker, Senior Vice President Home Care and Formulation

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Technologies Europe. “The expanded capacities for chelating agents at our Ludwigshafen site enable us to respond to the increasing demand in Europe.” The first additional capacities of Trilon® M will be available as of the 3rd quarter of 2015.

Flexibilization to meet market requirements

In addition to capacity expansions, production processes will be made more flexible and the company will invest in infrastructure. “The investment in new tanks and filling stations allows us to flexibilize our production. We are thus in a better position to respond to our customers’ demand for different chelating agents and product forms required for their respective application,” said Kroker.

BASF currently produces its chelating agents at its site in Ludwigshafen/Germany, in Lima/Ohio, and in Guaratinguetá/Brazil. Another world-scale plant for Trilon® M is under construction in Theodore/Alabama. This new plant is scheduled to be commissioned in the 4th quarter of 2015. With the increased production in Ludwigshafen and the construction in Theodore/Alabama BASF will enhance its global capacity for chelating agents to 170,000 metric tons per year.

Trilon® M is globally available in liquid and solid form. Chelating agents reduce the concentration of water hardness ions in aqueous solutions, thereby enhancing the cleaning efficiency of detergents and dishwashing products as well as for cleaners in industrial & institutional applications.

About BASF's Care Chemicals division

The BASF division Care Chemicals offers a broad range of ingredients for hygiene, personal care, home care, industrial & institutional cleaning, and technical applications. We are the leading supplier for the cosmetics industry as well as the detergents and cleaning agents industry and support our customers worldwide 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, pigments, and UV filters. Superabsorbents developed for the full spectrum of hygiene applications complete the range. We have production and development sites in all regions and are expanding our presence in emerging markets. Further information is available at www.care-chemicals.basf.com and www.homecare-and-i-and-i.basf.com.

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.