News Release

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BASF inaugurated application center for Plastic Additives in Kaisten

- **Focused investment to address the current and future key market requirements in the growing plastics segment**
- **Merging key resources at one location to create a center of excellence**

BASF recently inaugurated its new EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa) Application center for Plastic Additives in Kaisten, Switzerland. The new facility, located in the existing BASF production site, includes a state of the art compounding extruder, stretch film and tape lines as well as an injection molding unit capable of simulating the polymer production and processing technology. The facility can combine intelligent process automation and expertise that will increase the quality of plastics produced.

The new application center serves as the regional technical support base for customers for applications such as polymer production, master batch and leading players in the converting industry but is also the global competency center for the automotive as well as the film and tape industry. The state of the art facility is equipped with specialized equipment that can precisely simulate commercial production processes. The test laboratory can expertly evaluate processing stabilization, light stabilization, long term stabilization or effect performance of additives. With the combination of this new innovative technical facility and the global experience of the dedicated teams, BASF is significantly better positioned to support the business success of its customers.

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“The housing of existing innovation units and intelligent laboratories on one dedicated site will lead to both shorter development cycles and help our customers by reducing complexity. Supported by the latest digital technologies, we will continue to strengthen our development capabilities to not only to meet with customer needs but also to drive innovation that addresses the future market needs,” said Alberto Giovanzana, Head of Plastic Additives Europe, Africa and Middle East, BASF.

The existing BASF site located in Kaisten is well known for the production of plastic additives such as antioxidants which are added to plastics and lubricating oils to protect against ageing. The site already houses a development lab for the form giving of additives and with the new investment, the site is now the European competence center for Plastic Additives in addition to the regional technical centers in Pontecchio Marconi, Italy and Ludwigshafen, Germany. By combining the current application technology labs together with the Marketing and Product Management functions all on one site, it will enhance automation and deliver faster results to its customers.

The BASF Plastic Additives business has 5 labs globally: the global competence center as well as the regional technical center in Kaisten, and the regional technical centers in Pontecchio Marconi, Ludwigshafen, Shanghai (China) and Tarrytown (U.S.).

About BASF Plastic Additives

BASF is a leading supplier, manufacturer and innovation partner of plastic additives. Its comprehensive and innovative product portfolio includes stabilizers 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. More information about plastic additives: www.plasticadditives.basf.com.

About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The more than 115,000 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 €64.5 billion in 2017. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (BAS). Further information at **www.basf.com**.