News Release

BASF completes acquisition of Chemetall

Ludwigshafen, Germany – December 14, 2016 – BASF has completed its acquisition of Albemarle's global surface treatment business, Chemetall. Through this acquisition, BASF's Coatings division expands its portfolio to become a more complete solutions provider.

BASF combines its know-how in chemistry and coatings applications with Chemetall's market-leading expertise in surface treatment. The combined businesses will benefit from each other's global infrastructure, scale and market access, driving new growth opportunities by offering an unmatched solutions competence to customers.

"We are extending a warm welcome to our new colleagues. The acquisition of Chemetall allows us to significantly expand our market. By combining the expertise and innovation power of two global market leaders, we will accelerate innovation and make our customers even more successful," said Markus Kamieth, President of BASF's Coatings division.

Chemetall develops and manufactures customized technology and system solutions for surface treatment. Their products protect metals from corrosion, facilitate forming and machining, allow parts to be optimally prepared for the painting process and ensure proper coating adhesion. These chemicals are used in a wide range of industries and end-markets, such as automotive, aerospace, aluminum finishing, and metal forming. Chemetall's sales for the full calendar year of 2015 were US\$845 million. We create chemistry

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Business Media Christine Haupt Phone: +49 621 60-41040 christine.haupt@basf.com

Trade Media Joerg Zumkley Phone: +49 2501 14-3453 joerg.zumkley@basf.com

BASF Coatings GmbH Glasuritstraße 1 48165 Muenster <u>www.basf-coatings.de</u> Phone: +49 2501 14-3399

BASF SE Media Relations Phone: +49 621 60-20916 presse.kontakt@basf.com To prepare for a seamless integration, BASF has established a Global Integration Management Team, which will ensure business continuity while maintaining a clear priority on meeting customer needs.

About BASF's Coatings division

The Coatings division of BASF is a global expert in the development, production and marketing of innovative and sustainable automotive OEM and refinish coatings, as well as decorative paints. We create advanced performance solutions and drive performance, design and new applications to meet our partners' needs all over the world. BASF shares skills, knowledge and resources of interdisciplinary and global teams for the benefit of customers by operating a collaborative network of sites in Europe, North America, South America and Asia Pacific. In 2015, the Coatings division achieved global sales of about \in 3.2 billion.

In 2016, BASF acquired Chemetall, a leading global supplier of applied surface treatments for metal, plastic and glass substrates in a wide range of industries and end markets. With this expansion in portfolio, BASF becomes a more complete solution provider for coatings.

Solutions beyond your imagination – Coatings by BASF. For more information about the Coatings division of BASF and its products, visit <u>www.basf-coatings.com</u>.

About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 112,000 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 more than €70 billion in 2015. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (BAS). Further information at www.basf.com.