

News Release

P355/18e
October 31, 2018

BASF implements logistics concept at Ludwigshafen site

- **Tank container storage facility put into operation**
- **Economics Minister Volker Wissing on the importance of transport infrastructure for Rhineland-Palatinate**
- **Board member Michael Heinz and Site manager Uwe Liebelt on logistics challenges for BASF**

BASF today commissioned its new tank container storage facility at its Ludwigshafen site. This facility is part of an integrated storage and transport concept that BASF is using to improve customer service and significantly reduce logistics costs at the same time. Dr. Volker Wissing (Minister for Economic Affairs, Transport, Agriculture and Viniculture Rhineland-Palatinate) also came to Ludwigshafen for the opening.

“The fully automated tank container storage facility and the autonomous transport vehicle demonstrate the high degree of innovation in the automotive and logistics industry. Automation and digitization are not dreams of the future but open up new opportunities and possibilities. The further development of logistics is a central task for our internationally operating companies in order to succeed in global competition. BASF is open to innovative technologies. I want this to set an example in Rhineland-Palatinate and we want to establish ourselves as a location where new vehicles or drives can be developed, tested, produced and used,” said Economics Minister Dr. Volker Wissing.

Michael Heinz, Member of the Board of Executive Directors, BASF SE, and Site Director of Ludwigshafen and Site Manager Dr. Uwe Liebelt emphasized the importance of logistics for chemical sites during the ceremony. “A well-networked, efficient infrastructure is of central importance for our competitiveness. It supports our growth and thus has an impact on jobs. Of course, this applies not only to BASF, but to all companies, especially the manufacturing ones,” said Michael Heinz.

Flexibility in supplying customers and logistics costs are significantly influenced by the internal transport routes at the Ludwigshafen site. With the commissioning of the tank container storage facility, BASF has now implemented the last element of the integrated storage and transport concept.

“Thanks to this combination, we will be more flexible and significantly more competitive in customer service by rail in the future. We are making an innovative leap forward in logistics at the site and are setting an example for the entire industry,” said Dr. Uwe Liebelt.

Logistics concept consists of tank container storage, autonomous transport vehicles and BASF tank containers

The three components of the integrated logistics concept are fully automated guided vehicles (AGVs), new, rail-optimized tank containers that can replace conventional rail tank cars and the tank container storage facility.

The AGVs transport new 45 and 52-foot tank containers, which BASF developed together with the Belgian tank container manufacturer van Hool on the model of the 20 and 30-foot tank containers. The so-called B-TC (BASF Class Tank Container) allow a maximum payload of 66 metric tons and can be transported by rail or by AGV in the factory by road. The use of the AGV reduces the time required to deliver a tank car from BASF’s railway station to one of the more than 150 loading points at the site from around 22 hours today to around one hour in the future.

The tank container storage facility is a fully automatic outdoor storage facility for tank containers for the storage of liquid substances and liquid waste. It is designed for a capacity of 2,000 standard containers and has two cranes with a loading capacity of 75 metric tons each. Goods can be handled by AGV, truck and rail.

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 four segments: Chemicals, Performance Products, Functional Materials & Solutions and Agricultural Solutions. BASF generated sales of more than €60 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.