News Release

Professor Dr. Jürgen Strube turns 80

Professor Dr. Jürgen Strube, Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board of BASF SE in Ludwigshafen, celebrates his 80th birthday on August 19, 2019.

Strube was born in Bochum, Germany, and holds a doctorate in law. He joined the Finance Department at BASF in 1969. After holding positions in Antwerp, Belgium, as well as Ludwigshafen, Germany, and São Paulo, Brazil, he was appointed as a member of BASF’s Board of Executive Directors in 1985, and was based in the United States. He became Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors in 1990. After retiring from the Board of Executive Directors in 2003, Professor Strube was elected to the Supervisory Board of BASF, where he held the post of Chairman until the end of April 2009. Since then, he has been Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board.

As Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Strube set out the strategic direction for the future-oriented development of BASF. This included globalization while strengthening the Verbund within the company as well as a comprehensive commitment to sustainability. During Professor Strube’s tenure, Wintershall’s oil and gas activities were intensified and the partnership with Gazprom was established. Under his chairmanship, decisions were also taken to establish Verbund sites with Sinopec in Nanjing, China, and with Petronas in Kuantan, Malaysia, as well as to invest in modernizing the Schwarzheide chemical site in Eastern Germany.

Thanks to his diverse sociopolitical activities in the fields of business, politics and culture, Strube has also provided important impulses outside of BASF. In particular,
he is currently active with the foundation he founded with his daughter Karin Strube in 2017, which supports projects relating to intercultural understanding in Europe as well as medicine, health and end-of-life care.

In addition to numerous academic honors in Germany and abroad, he received the Hanns Martin Schleyer Prize in 2011 for his values-based advocacy for entrepreneurial freedom and social responsibility. For his many years of contributions to Germany’s economy and society, he was awarded the Great Cross of Merit of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany as well as the Order of Merit of the State of Rhineland-Palatinate.

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