## **News Release**



## BASF to sell fertilizer activities to EuroChem

Ludwigshafen, Germany – September 27, 2011 – BASF has signed a contract with EuroChem, Moscow, Russia, to sell its fertilizer activities in Antwerp, Belgium. BASF also plans to sell its 50% share of the joint venture PEC-Rhin in Ottmarsheim, France, to EuroChem. The total transaction value is expected to be approximately €700 million. The divestments are subject to approval by the appropriate antitrust authorities. BASF plans to complete the transactions by the end of the first quarter of 2012.

In Antwerp, the scope includes plants for CAN/AN (calcium ammonium nitrate/ammonium nitrate) fertilizers, Nitrophoska<sup>®</sup> fertilizers and nitrophosphoric acid as well as three related nitric acid plants. BASF is in the process to carve out the activities into a separate company. About 330 employees will transfer to the new company which will be acquired by EuroChem.

BASF also plans to sell its shares in PEC-Rhin, which produces CAN/AN fertilizers and the respective intermediates, ammonia and nitric acid. The company is a 50-50 joint venture with GPN, a member of the French Total group, and currently has about 190 employees.

"Our very skilled team and the highly competitive plants will have a sustainable future and will create additional value with a strategic

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buyer whose core business is fertilizer," said Dr. Andreas Kreimeyer, member of the Board of Executive Directors of BASF SE, responsible for the Chemicals segment. "Furthermore, EuroChem is an excellent partner to support our Verbund concept at the Antwerp site."

Dmitry Strezhnev, CEO of EuroChem, commented "With the acquisition of BASF's fertilizer complex in Antwerp, EuroChem will be gaining high-quality production assets with superior logistics that provide it with further geographical diversification and significantly improve its proximity to European customers. The same would be true for the 50% share of PEC-Rhin. This is in line with our strategy to increase our share in the global fertilizer industry through both organic expansion and targeted acquisitions. We are also pleased to become BASF's long-term industrial partner on the integrated Antwerp site."

The fertilizer activities have a total annual capacity of approximately 2.5 million metric tons of fertilizer and account for less than 1% of BASF Group's total sales. BASF's fertilizer operations in Ludwigshafen are not included in the scope of the divestment.

## **About BASF**

BASF is the world's leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products and agricultural products to oil and gas. As a reliable partner BASF creates chemistry to help its customers in virtually all industries to be more successful. With its high-value products and intelligent solutions, BASF plays an important role in finding answers to global challenges such as climate protection, energy efficiency, nutrition and mobility. BASF posted sales of about €63.9 billion in 2010 and had approximately 109,000 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 or in its Social Media Newsroom at newsroom.basf.com.

More about EuroChem: www.eurochem.ru