



## Joint News Release

### **BASF and Omya jointly develop coater-ready barrier solutions**

- Growing demand for more sustainable barrier approaches for paper and cardboard packaging

**Ludwigshafen, Germany and Oftringen, Switzerland – December 12, 2014 –**

BASF and Omya are working jointly on coater-ready barrier solutions for paper and cardboard packaging. This cooperation is their response to the growing demand for these products. In future, this will provide a service for customers who for capacity and plant technology reasons cannot prepare formulations and mixtures independently. Coater-ready solutions consist mainly of pigments, additives and functional barrier dispersions.

BASF's and Omya's contributions to the partnership complement each other ideally. BASF supplies barrier dispersions, while Omya provides the pigments and experience to manufacture these products and produces them in its own facilities. Thanks to their technical know-how and knowledge of the market, the two partners can guarantee an optimal solution for the paper and cardboard packaging manufacturers. Marketing will be carried out through the sales channels of Omya in Europe. A first commercial product will be available in Q1.

### **Demand for barrier materials increases**

The upcoming Mineral Oil Ordinance of the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV) is increasing interest in water-based barrier solutions for paper and cardboard packaging. BASF's comprehensive portfolio

of barrier solutions includes polymers applied by extrusion, coextrusion or lamination at converters (e.g. ecovio<sup>®</sup> PS 1606 or Ultramid<sup>®</sup>) as well as water-based dispersions used in paper finishing on coating machines and in printing processes (Epotal<sup>®</sup>). Through this cooperation, BASF's portfolio is supplemented by this new coater-ready barrier formulation.

Together with packaging manufacturers, BASF has developed various barrier solutions which are now already being successfully used in the market for various packaging applications.

### **About BASF**

At BASF, we create chemistry – and have been doing so for 150 years. Our portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products and crop protection products to oil and gas. As the world's leading chemical company, we combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. Through science and innovation, we enable our customers in nearly every industry to meet the current and future needs of society. Our products and solutions contribute to conserving resources, ensuring nutrition and improving quality of life. We have summed up this contribution in our corporate purpose: We create chemistry for a sustainable future. BASF had sales of about €74 billion in 2013 and over 112,000 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](http://www.basf.com).

### **About Omya**

Omya is a leading global producer of industrial minerals – mainly fillers and pigments derived from calcium carbonate and dolomite – and a worldwide distributor of specialty chemicals. The company's major markets are forest products (fiber based products such as paper, board and tissue), polymers, building materials (paints, coatings, sealants, adhesives and construction) as well as life sciences (food, feed, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, environment and agriculture). Founded in 1884 in Switzerland, Omya has a global presence extending to more than 180 locations in over 50 countries with 8,000 employees.

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