

150 years



News Release

BASF to increase production capacities for bismuth vanadate pigments in Besigheim

- **Investments due to increasing demand for alternatives to lead chromate pigments**
- **BASF to introduce two new bismuth vanadate pigments in 2015**

Besigheim, Germany – February 5, 2015 – BASF is going to significantly increase its production capacities of bismuth vanadate pigments in Besigheim near Stuttgart. The additional capacities will be available as of 2017. Bismuth vanadate pigments are yellow pigments with a special greenish color tone, that BASF markets under the Sicopal® and Paliotan® brand names. Customers use them for the formulation of paints, coatings and plastic coatings.

Bismuth vanadate pigments are a high performance inorganic alternative to pigments containing lead chromate, which, according to the EU chemicals regulation REACH, are classified as CMR substances (carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction). “Over the next few years we expect our customers' demand for bismuth vanadate pigments to grow faster than the overall pigment market, both in Europe and worldwide. By expanding the production capacities we respond to this increase in demand,” explains Dr. Alexander Haunschild, Senior Vice President of the business unit Pigments & Resins Europe. As of this year, BASF is no longer producing any pigments containing lead chromate. “We are committed to offering our customers innovative products that enable them to develop sustainable solutions,” underlines Haunschild.

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BASF to extend its comprehensive bismuth vanadate pigment portfolio

In the field of bismuth vanadate pigments, BASF is one of the global market leaders and has a comprehensive portfolio that is continually being expanded. In 2013, BASF launched the particularly color-intense yellow Sicopal® L1130 pigment, which is well established in the market. The product is used as alternative to zinc-containing formulations and enables highly chromatic yellow shades with high weather fastness. In 2015, BASF is also going to introduce a newly developed alkali-stable bismuth vanadate pigment for the formulation of paints as well as a temperature-stable bismuth vanadate pigment for plastic applications.

About BASF's Dispersions & Pigments Division

The Dispersions & Pigments division of BASF develops, produces and markets a range of high-quality pigments, resins, additives and polymer dispersions worldwide. These raw materials are used in formulations for coatings and paints, printing and packaging products, construction chemicals, adhesives, fiber bondings, plastics, paper as well as for electronic applications such as displays. With its comprehensive product portfolio and its extensive knowledge of the industry, the Dispersions & Pigments division offers its customers innovative and sustainable solutions and helps them advance their formulations. For further information about the Dispersions & Pigments division, please visit www.dispersions-pigments.basf.com.

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.