News Release

BASF's leading-edge protection for rotor blades passes 50 hours rain test

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- **Innovative product for energy generation of the future**
- **Successfully tested by a renowned institute from Denmark**

BASF supports the wind energy sector with special systems and products and has launched an innovative coatings solution for rotor blades: RELEST® Wind LEP S. It has recently passed an external 50 hours rain erosion test by a renowned institute from Denmark and thus outperformed other well-known rain erosion resistant coatings.

The stress loads to which rotor blades are exposed during the operation are enormous: at top speeds of up to 300 kilometers per hour at the blade tips, gigantic forces act upon the blades. Moreover, weather influences such as rain, snow, hail, sand, heat and UV radiation wear out the blades and lead to more frequent repair and maintenance intervals. To prevent the material from damages caused by these influences, the Coatings division of BASF has developed a solution for long-lasting protection. The system – consisting of a gel coat, a filler, an edge protection and a topcoat – is based entirely on solvent-free, two-component polyurethane compounds, thus complying with present VOC directives. Within BASF's coatings portfolio for the wind energy sector, RELEST Wind LEP S stands for excellent sustainable and efficient leading edge protection.

RELEST Wind LEP S provides rotor blades with the optimum protection due to its excellent rain erosion resistance. The recent test showed that with a speed of up to 160 m/s (approx. 570 km/h), the rain did not cause any significant damage on the coating. The material

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is virtually solvent-free as well as being exceptionally durable and UV stable.

Perfectly suited for OEMs, the material can be easily applied directly on the rotor blade. RELEST Wind LEP S improves the efficiency of the wind turbine operation by providing an effective erosion protection, thus reducing potential maintenance costs. With its low film thickness and easy application, it is the ideal material matching the customers' requirements.

BASF supplies the matching coating system for all components under the trade name RELEST, from the base of the wind power plant to the rotor blade edge and thus provides innovative products for the energy of the future.

About BASF's Coatings division

The Coatings division of BASF is a global expert in the development, production and marketing of innovative and sustainable automotive OEM and refinish coatings, industrial coatings and decorative paints. We create advanced performance solutions and drive performance, design and new applications to meet our partners' needs all over the world. BASF shares skills, knowledge and resources of interdisciplinary and global teams for the benefit of customers by operating a collaborative network of sites in Europe, North America, South America and Asia Pacific. In 2015, the Coatings division achieved global sales of about €3.2 billion.

Solutions beyond your imagination – Coatings by BASF. For more information about the Coatings division of BASF and its products, visit www.basf-coatings.com.

About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 112,000 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 five segments: Chemicals, Performance Products, Functional Materials & Solutions, Agricultural Solutions and Oil & Gas. BASF generated sales of more than €70 billion in 2015. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information at www.basf.com.