

# News Release



## **BASF concentrates European production of paper coating dispersions in Ludwigshafen and Hamina**

- **Improved competitiveness in paper coating dispersions**
- **Divestiture of BASF production site for paper coating dispersions in Pischelsdorf, Austria**
- **BASF remains a leading supplier to the paper and packaging industry**

Ludwigshafen, Germany – September 27, 2017 – BASF will concentrate the production of paper coating dispersions in Europe at two sites, the Ludwigshafen Verbund site and the Hamina site in Finland. The goal is to strengthen BASF's ability to compete in the challenging market environment of paper coating dispersions in the long term.

As a result of this decision, BASF SE has signed a contract with Synthomer Austria GmbH, a subsidiary of the British specialty chemicals manufacturer Synthomer plc, for the sale of the BASF production site for styrene butadiene dispersions for paper coating in Pischelsdorf, Austria, for a purchase price of €30 million. The buyer will take over 42 employees at the site. The transaction requires authorization by the relevant merger control authorities and is expected to be completed by late January 2018.

In future, BASF will supply customers for styrene butadiene dispersions in Europe from existing production capacities at the sites in Ludwigshafen and Hamina. Furthermore, paper dispersion production will continue without changes in the other BASF production

September 27, 2017  
P313/17e

### **Business media**

Thomas Nonnast  
Phone: +49 30 206 2950-34  
[thomas.nonnast@basf.com](mailto:thomas.nonnast@basf.com)

### **Trade media**

Jana Goedicke  
Phone: +49 621 60-28261  
[jana.goedicke@basf.com](mailto:jana.goedicke@basf.com)

BASF SE  
67056 Ludwigshafen  
Phone: +49 621 60-0  
<http://www.basf.com>  
Media Relations  
Phone: +49 621 60-20916  
[presse.kontakt@basf.com](mailto:presse.kontakt@basf.com)

sites for paper coating dispersions in the EMEA region, i.e. Gebze, Turkey and Durban, South Africa.

The styrene acrylic dispersions that are currently produced in Pischelsdorf are not included in the sale. The respective production will also be concentrated in Ludwigshafen.

“This decision helps us improve our competitiveness and creates the conditions necessary to offer products and services to our customers at attractive terms in the future. We will continue to supply our Austrian paper customers with the usual range of styrene butadiene and styrene acrylic dispersions combined with technical on-site services and optimized logistics,” says Professor Thomas Schiele, Vice President Paper Coating Chemicals Europe at BASF. “At the same time, we are pleased that Synthomer, an experienced producer of dispersions, wants to further develop the site.”

Paper dispersions are applied to paper together with other additives and pigments to improve such properties as the print quality of graphic paper as well as packaging paper and cardboard.

As a leading supplier of paper chemicals BASF offers, besides styrene butadiene and styrene acrylic dispersions for paper coating, a broad portfolio of customer-focused solutions and chemicals for the paper and packaging industry. These product lines for the production and coating of paper and cardboard are not affected by the decision.

#### **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, and 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](http://www.dispersions-pigments.basf.com).

**About BASF**

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 114,000 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 about €58 billion in 2016. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (BAS). Further information at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).