

News Release

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BASF Spain inaugurates its renovated Refinish Competence Center

- **The facility will be an example of BASF's innovative strength**
- **The center will offer the best technological experience for the customers**
- **Around 2,000 people will be trained at the RCC every year**

The Refinish Competence Center at BASF Spain in Marchamalo (Guadalajara) celebrated its official reopening. This training center is dedicated to teaching body shop technicians, distributors and large automotive companies, all of them BASF customers in Spain and Portugal, about its renowned premium brands Glasurit and R-M. In addition, it hosts numerous events intended to promote the training of young future professionals, through initiatives such as "R-M Best Painter Contest" or "Castilla-La Mancha Skills", as well as training vocational teachers through the FORTECO program.

Originally built in 1983, the facility is among the top addresses for BASF customers in Iberia and more than 2,000 people a year participate in the training programs. The training is key to being able to master the complex techniques of color adjustment and automotive refinishing, and it provides a complete overview of the latest innovations of the two brands.

Since the start of this year, the Marchamalo center has invested around 2.5 million euros in renovating the facility so as to offer the best possible technological experience. The fundamental reason for the modernization was BASF's innovative spirit as well as its commitment to its customers. With a clear focus on sustainability and environmental protection, BASF has installed equipment with maximum energy

efficiency and minimum emissions.

Patricia Franco Jiménez, Regional Minister of Economy, Enterprise and Employment for Castilla-La Mancha, and Rafael Esteban Santamaría, the mayor of Marchamalo, joined other official representatives at the inauguration. The company was represented by Katja Scharpwinkel, Senior Vice President Automotive Refinish Coatings EMEA, Carles Navarro Vigo, Managing Director Country Cluster Head Iberia, Christian Schneider, Site Manager Marchamalo / Director of Operations, and Ramón Farré Gaudier, Regional Business Manager Automotive Refinish Coatings Iberia.

The production center in Marchamalo (Guadalajara) is the headquarters of the Coatings division in Spain. The plant has been used by BASF as a production center since 1982, although the company origins date back to 1867.

Covering an area of 310,000 m², the center employs around 650 staff and encompasses two paint factories, one plant for intermediate resins, and a large-scale production unit. Apart from the renovated training center, the site includes an automotive application center as well as quality control and development laboratories for all its main product segments.

The products manufactured in Guadalajara include high-technology coatings for the automotive industry and other technically demanding applications, various acrylics, binders for electrocoating, thix additives, polyesters and other special intermediate resins, and decorative paints, fillers and protective additives for tunneling machines.

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, decorative paints as well as applied surface treatments for metal, plastic and glass substrates in a wide range of industries. The portfolio is completed by the "Innovation Beyond Paint" program which aims at developing new markets and businesses. 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 2018, the Coatings division achieved global sales of about €3.86 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 122,000 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 six segments: Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care and Agricultural Solutions. BASF generated sales of around €63 billion in 2018. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchange in Frankfurt (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the U.S. Further information at www.basf.com.