

News Release

P102/20
January 9, 2020

BASF strengthens its business with water-soluble polyacrylates for use in household and commercial cleaning products and industrial applications

Ludwigshafen, Germany – January 9, 2020 – With a single-digit million-euro investment, BASF has enhanced the flexibility of its water-soluble polyacrylate production plant at the company's Ludwigshafen site, Germany, and slightly expanded capacity. The upgraded plant is now operational, enabling customers in the household and commercial cleaning products, as well as for chemical and formulator industries to benefit from the expanded capacity in specialty chemicals.

"High-performance water-soluble polyacrylates and copolymers are an indispensable component of our customers' formulations. With this investment and our applications expertise, we are supporting our European customers in their efforts to boost their market growth with differentiated products," said Soeren Hildebrandt, Senior Vice President, Home Care, I&I and Industrial Formulators Europe at BASF.

Water-soluble polyacrylates and copolymers are marketed by the Care Chemicals operating division under the Sokalan® brand and have numerous applications. Sokalan® PA and Sokalan® CP grades are used in the household and commercial cleaning products industry for water softening and in various technical processes, for example to prevent fouling. As dye transfer inhibitors, Sokalan® HP grades protect fabrics from discoloration during washing. Sokalan® NR grades represent the latest class of polyacrylates whose narrow molecular weight distribution makes

them highly effective mineral dispersing agents.

About the Care Chemicals division at BASF

The BASF division Care Chemicals offers a broad range of ingredients for personal care, home care, industrial & institutional cleaning, and technical applications. We are the leading global supplier for the cosmetics industry as well as the detergents and cleaners industry, and support our customers with innovative and sustainable products, solutions and concepts. The division's high-performance product portfolio includes surfactants, emulsifiers, polymers, emollients, chelating agents, cosmetic active ingredients and UV filters. We have production and development sites in all regions and are expanding our presence in emerging markets. Further information is available online at www.care-chemicals.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 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. Further information at www.basf.com.