

News Release

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BASF ramps up methane sulfonic acid output

- **New methane sulfonic acid plant started up at the Ludwigshafen Verbund site**
- **Additional capacities to be available in the third quarter of 2022**
- **Special properties of methane sulfonic acid add value in numerous applications**
- **BASF meets growing global customer demand for both, high-performance and environmentally formulations**

Ludwigshafen, Germany – May 5, 2022 – Global demand for methane sulfonic acid (MSA) has increased steadily over the past years. This trend is fueled by a growing interest in environmentally products and formulations. In response to growing customer demand, BASF has invested a higher double-digit million euro amount to expand production capacities at the Verbund site in Ludwigshafen.

“With this investment, we are helping our global customer base to formulate environmentally optimized, high-performance and top-quality products. In doing so, we are supporting our customers’ growth in this dynamic market as a reliable supplier,” says Soeren Hildebrandt, Senior Vice President Home Care, I&I and Industrial Formulators Europe. Despite the challenging circumstances posed by the Covid pandemic, the plant was brought on stream with only a slight delay. The investment increases capacity at the Ludwigshafen site to a total of 50,000 metric tons per year.

Sustainable alternative to conventional acids

Methane sulfonic acid – sold under the Lutropur® MSA brand – is a highly active organic acid with a unique combination of properties that sets it apart from all other acids: MSA is a strong acid that forms highly soluble salts as well as being colorless, odorless and readily biodegradable. Because of its excellent properties, methane sulfonic acid is used in numerous applications ranging from chemical and biofuel synthesis to industrial cleaning and metal surface treatment in the electronics industry.

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. Around 111,000 employees in the BASF Group contribute to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio comprises six segments: Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care and Agricultural Solutions. BASF generated sales of €78.6 billion in 2021. 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.