

News Release

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A New Array – the theme of BASF’s 2022-2023 Automotive Color Trends collection

- **BASF explores the spaces in-between**
- **A reorganization is taking place in people's minds and a new array of values is about to take shape**
- **Consideration of the growing need for sustainability and functionality**

Each year, designers for BASF’s Coatings division create a new collection to inspire automotive designers around the globe. The 2022-2023 collection is called NEW ARRAY, providing innovative shades with an increasing focus on sustainability and functionality, while still moving into new and exciting color spaces.

The collection title NEW ARRAY refers to the thoughtful process of ordering values and responding to new needs. Think of it like being on an escalator. It’s a mode of transportation that does not belong to the previous nor the next level, taking the rider to a liminal space in-between. This collection immerses itself in that space to look forward at the future of mobility.

EMEA – The doors of possibility are open

The colors of Europe, Middle East and Africa reach high chromaticity with spectacular new pigments – enabling beautiful and intense new shades. The darker tones are fine and smooth. Neutral color shades play with a virtual look by adding subtle color information. Effects are there to support the idea and visual impression.

“Overall, identity is shown not only through uniqueness, but also in the ability to

subtly extend the already unique character of diverse color positions or effects,” said Mark Gutjahr, head of Automotive Color Design, EMEA.

Asia Pacific – Standing in a liminal space

Standing in a liminal space, the colors of Asia Pacific bring us comfort, happiness, spice, and solutions reflecting human individuality, which is expanding and gaining importance. They show people how to live gently and vividly with their own narratives.

“AP’s colors shape a positive and realistic future. They draw your own story allowing you to align with your colorful identity away from the social pressures,” said Chiharu Matsuhara, head of Automotive Design for AP.

The Americas – Visions of progress

Society is grappling with its directional pull, whether to move in a radically different aesthetic without losing touch with sophisticated appearance and compelling effects. Visions of progress emanate through the Americas colors with depth, texture, and compatibility. Expressions of natural and simplified options beckon both individuals and communities to embrace liminal spaces.

“Dealing with a plethora of emotions and conditions associated with both individual and communal identities, one may find solace and acceptance beyond the typical confines of tangible life,” said Liz Hoffman, head of Automotive Design for the Americas. “Moving through the liminal uncertainty may ultimately provide grounding and opportunities to see into the future.”

Color Expertise of the Coatings division

Every year, the designers of BASF’s Coatings division study future trends which they use as foundation for the development of surface, texture and color positions. They draw inspiration from industry, fashion, consumer products, nature, technology, and more. This research is shared with BASF’s customers, the automotive designers, to drive future mass production plans.

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. This portfolio is supplemented by "Beyond Paint Solutions", which enable new applications with innovative surfaces. 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 2021, the Coatings division achieved global sales of about €3.44 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. 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.