

# News Release

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## **BASF has started production in new Superabsorbents Excellence Center for its Hygiene Business**

- **Investment at Verbund site in Antwerp, Belgium, to strengthen product development for superabsorbent polymers**
- **Digitalization increases product performance and shortens time-to-market**
- **Innovative character of Excellence Center recognized and supported by Flemish government**

**Ludwigshafen, Germany and Antwerp, Belgium** – BASF has started production in its state-of-the-art Superabsorbents Excellence Center at its Verbund site in Antwerp, Belgium. The €25 million investment is a clear commitment of the company to the hygiene business as an important part of its acrylics value chain.

To increase innovation capabilities for its superabsorbent polymer business and to accelerate the scale-up process from product development to production scale, the new pilot plant is equipped with the latest data collection and sensor technology. By leveraging digitalization and advanced modeling, the applied technology will be key to further increase product performance. Combined with the proximity to BASF's superabsorbent production in Antwerp, the state-of-the-art processes in the new pilot plant will shorten time-to-market.

“This investment in a Superabsorbents Excellence Center in Antwerp highlights our commitment to innovation for the hygiene industry. With the pilot plant we want to provide new impulses to our customers and strengthen our leading role in the global Superabsorbents market,” said Marco Altmayer, Senior Vice President, Global

Strategic Business Development Petrochemicals, during the inauguration of the Superabsorbents Excellence Center.

The pilot plant is also a strong commitment to BASF's Verbund site in Antwerp. The Flemish government recognized the innovative character of the Excellence center and has granted a funding of €1.4 million to the development of this new process technology platform.

Jan Remeysen, Chief Executive Officer BASF Antwerpen NV, said: "The Superabsorbents Excellence Center is an investment in the future. We are pleased to play a big role in the production and development of Superabsorbents as a center of expertise and innovation. In addition, we appreciate the recognition and funding by the Flemish Government."

#### **About BASF's Hygiene Business**

BASF is a leading producer of superabsorbent polymers globally. As a leading partner to the global Hygiene industry, BASF is developing and producing superabsorbent polymers used in various hygiene applications such as baby diapers, adult incontinence products and feminine hygiene articles. Further information at [hygiene.basf.com](http://hygiene.basf.com). BASF has a broad market access and a global production footprint for superabsorbent polymers. Operations are deeply integrated in BASF's Verbund structures, enabling the company to leverage the full potential of its acrylics value chain.

#### **About BASF**

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. More than 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 €87.3 billion in 2022. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchange in Frankfurt (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the United States. Further information at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).