

News Release



BASF plans a stepwise capacity increase of its North American MDI production

- **BASF to support continued growth of regional MDI market**
- **Engineering for capacity increase of MDI unit at Geismar, Louisiana, site has begun**
- **Latest proprietary technologies ensure best-in-class productivity and energy efficiency**

Ludwigshafen, Germany / Geismar, Louisiana – November 16, 2016
– BASF has started engineering for a stepwise capacity increase of its methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (MDI) production facilities at the company's Verbund site in Geismar, Louisiana. Capacity will be increased incrementally from 300,000 metric tons per year to around 600,000 metric tons per year.

“The engineering for the capacity increase of the MDI synthesis has already started. In subsequent steps, which will be implemented in alignment with business development, the MDI precursor units in Geismar will be expanded accordingly,” said Stefano Pigozzi, President of BASF's Monomers division. “The usage of latest proprietary technologies will ensure best-in-class productivity and energy efficiency.”

Stefan Doerr, head of the regional business unit Monomers North America, added: “With this investment, BASF will support the growth of its North American customers. Our existing infrastructure at the Geismar site combined with the competitive raw materials based on shale gas make the Geismar site ideally suited for this investment. The experienced BASF team at the site will ensure smooth

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implementation of the project.”

MDI is an important component for polyurethanes – an extremely versatile plastics material. It contributes to improved insulation, provides lighter materials for cars, and helps save energy in buildings.

About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 112,000 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 five segments: Chemicals, Performance Products, Functional Materials & Solutions, Agricultural Solutions and Oil & Gas. BASF generated sales of more than €70 billion in 2015. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (BAS). Further information at www.basf.com.