

## Position Statement – U.S. Infrastructure

### Executive Summary

Our company is a leading science and technology company with more than 15,000 U.S. employees across 74 facilities in 22 states around the country. Nearly half of these facilities contain manufacturing. Our high technology requires that these facilities have access to sound infrastructure to power our machines, deliver our products, transport our workers, and connect with our customers.

However, throughout much of the United States, outdated infrastructure causes both delays and high costs for consumers and businesses alike. Manufacturers need access to sound infrastructure to thrive in today's global economy and maintain future growth. We support efforts by federal, state, and local policymakers to fund and improve the efficient transportation and interconnectivity of people, goods, and services.

### Why It Matters

All corners of the United States depend upon infrastructure. Companies and consumers make use of American roads, bridges, rail systems, airports and seaports, waterways, electric grids, and telecommunications networks daily. However, much of the infrastructure currently in use is decades old and not universally accessible, resulting in deferred maintenance, safety concerns, rising repair costs, and connectivity issues. These shortcomings hinder America's economy and prevent companies from achieving their business objectives.

Manufacturers rely on updated and modern infrastructure systems to compete in today's global economy. However, U.S. manufacturers are falling behind. According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, the U.S. faces an infrastructure investment deficit of nearly \$2.6 trillion needed by 2029, resulting in more than 3 million lost jobs.<sup>1</sup> Additional studies have shown that infrastructure investments add as much as \$3 to GDP growth for every dollar spent and that increasing U.S. infrastructure spending by 1 percent of GDP would add 1.5 million jobs to the American economy.<sup>2</sup> Increasing the level of investment in America's infrastructure boosts economic recovery, growth, and competitiveness, spurs productivity, creates jobs, and increases quality of life.

Our company strongly supported the 2021 passage and signing into law of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Given that approximately 25% of U.S. public infrastructure funding comes from the federal government, state and local governments and stakeholders from the private sector must work with the Administration to disburse and implement the funds allocated by this legislation and act now to tackle this critical issue before it is too late.<sup>3</sup>

### Our Position

**As a company with nearly 40 manufacturing sites across the United States, we support investment to expand and modernize America's infrastructure to better promote the efficient transportation and interconnectivity of people, goods, and services.**

- We support increased public and private infrastructure funding focused on:
  - Supporting efforts to reduce traffic congestion and repair America's clogged and outdated roads, bridges, and public transit systems;
  - Increasing airport capacity and modernizing air traffic control systems;
  - Decreasing congestion and eliminating service disruptions and bottlenecks at ports and inland waterways;
  - Further developing the U.S. commercial rail system;
  - Modernizing and increasing capacity related to drinking water and wastewater systems;
  - Guaranteeing the safety and reliability of America's electric power grid; and

<sup>1</sup> 2021 Report Card for America's Future. (2021). American Society of Civil Engineers. Retrieved from <https://infrastructurereportcard.org/resources/investment-gap-2020-2029/>

<sup>2</sup> McBride, J. and Siripurapu, A. (8 November 2021). The State of U.S. Infrastructure. Council on Foreign Relations. Retrieved from <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/state-us-infrastructure>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.



- Updating, expanding, and securing America’s broadband, information, and telecommunications infrastructure, including wireless broadband via 5G, to incentivize domestic high-tech manufacturing, close the digital divide, and ensure that citizens nationwide are able to work and learn remotely and stay connected.

**We are thankful to policymakers across the country and from across the political spectrum for committing and acting to upgrade and modernize America’s infrastructure and encourage them to continue to make investment in infrastructure a priority in the years ahead.**

**About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany**

*Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, operates across life science, healthcare and electronics. More than 64,000 employees work to make a positive difference to millions of people’s lives every day by creating more joyful and sustainable ways to live. From providing products and services that accelerate drug development and manufacturing as well as discovering unique ways to treat the most challenging diseases to enabling the intelligence of devices – the company is everywhere. In 2022, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 22.2 billion in 66 countries.*

*The company holds the global rights to the name and trademark “Merck” internationally. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the business sectors of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, operate as MilliporeSigma in life science, EMD Serono in healthcare and EMD Electronics in electronics. Since its founding in 1668, scientific exploration and responsible entrepreneurship have been key to the company’s technological and scientific advances. To this day, the founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed company. For more information about Merck, KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, visit [www.emdgroup.com](http://www.emdgroup.com).*

