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## News Release

June 12, 2014

### **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and Schüssler Novachem Reach Agreement on Sale of Assets of Chemische Fabrik Lehrte**

- **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, sells laboratory equipment and production units to Schüssler Novachem**
- **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, to exit Lehrte site as planned at the end of June**

Darmstadt, Germany, June 12 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in the pharmaceutical and chemical sectors, and Schüssler Novachem, a manufacturer of inorganic salts based in Halle/Saale, Germany, have reached an agreement on the sale of laboratory equipment and production units located at the Lehrte site in the German federal state of Lower Saxony. The parties have agreed not to disclose the selling price or further details of the transaction. Schüssler had already acquired the land and buildings in Lehrte from Deutsche Bahn Immobilien GmbH in a separate transaction.

“We are glad to see that Schüssler will continue with their own chemical production at the Lehrte location,” said Bernd Reckmann, CEO Chemicals at Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

As part of its “Fit for 2018” transformation and growth program, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, announced in 2012 that it would close the Lehrte site in mid-2014 and continue to operate the relevant business from Darmstadt. Therefore Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and the works council agreed about a reconciliation of interest and a social plan.

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#### Merck KGaA

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Apart from efficiency enhancement measures, “Fit for 2018” also comprises numerous investments to secure future growth across various segments of the business: a recent example of supporting growth has been the construction of new powerplants at the company’s corporate center in Darmstadt since August 2013.

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### **About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany**

Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in the pharmaceutical and chemical sectors. Its subsidiaries in Canada and the United States operate under the umbrella brand EMD. Around 38,000 employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to further the success of customers and to help meet global challenges. The company generated total revenues of € 11.1 billion in 2013 with its four divisions: Biopharmaceuticals, Consumer Health, Performance Materials and Life Science Tools. Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany is the world’s oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company – since 1668, the name has stood for innovation, business success and responsible



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entrepreneurship. Holding an approximately 70 percent interest, the founding family remains the majority owner of the company to this day.