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News Release

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Appoints Udit Batra to Head Combined Life Science Business Following Pending Sigma-Aldrich Acquisition

- **Udit Batra has been CEO and President of Life Science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, since 2014**
- **Appointment will take effect following successful completion of Sigma-Aldrich acquisition expected for mid-2015**

Darmstadt, Germany, April 13, 2015 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in healthcare, life science and performance materials today announced that Udit Batra, currently CEO and President of the Life Science business, has been appointed to lead the combined life science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, once the acquisition of Sigma-Aldrich has been successfully completed.

The planned \$ 17 billion transaction remains subject to customary closing conditions and regulatory approvals, which the company expects to have completed in mid-2015. Until then, the life science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and Sigma-Aldrich will continue to operate as separate companies with Udit Batra and Rakesh Sachdev, President and CEO of Sigma-Aldrich, running both organizations independently. Rakesh Sachdev will serve in an advisory capacity, as needed, to ensure a smooth transition.

“Today’s appointment marks another important step in the acquisition of Sigma-Aldrich as it provides stable and strong leadership and continued customer focus during the crucial months of integration planning and beyond,” said Karl-Ludwig Kley, Chairman of the Executive Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. “Udit is a proven leader who

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Merck KGaA

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has demonstrated his ability to work successfully with his leadership team to guide large organizations, drive performance and deliver to our customers. I also want to express my gratitude to the Sigma-Aldrich employees for building the organization into a leading global life science tools company and to Rakesh, personally, for providing excellent leadership to the Sigma-Aldrich organization, both culturally and as demonstrated by the company's strong performance.”

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, in September 2014, announced the planned acquisition of U.S. life science company Sigma-Aldrich as part of its “Fit for 2018” transformation and growth strategy aimed at building three strong platforms for sustainable, profitable growth. If approved, the acquisition will be the largest in the company's almost 350-year history and marks an inflection point for both companies as it will deliver significant customer benefits, including a broader, complementary range of products and capabilities, greater investment in breakthrough innovations, enhanced customer service and a leading e-commerce and distribution platform in the \$130 billion global life science industry.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, has already secured antitrust clearance from the United States Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and some other jurisdictions, and is working diligently with the respective authorities to complete the transaction as planned. In March, the company announced that it successfully placed \$ 4 billion in bonds, following the placement of € 1.5 billion in hybrid bond in December to help finance the transaction.

Udit Batra, 44, has served as CEO and President of the life science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, since March 2014. He joined Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, in 2011 to head the Group's Consumer Health business. Prior to that, Udit Batra worked at Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics, where he was head of Global Public Health and Market Access. He served in a range of executive management positions at Novartis, including global Head of Corporate Strategy and Country President for the Pharma Business in Australia.



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Please find a full CV and photo of Udit Batra [here](#).

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Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in healthcare, life science and performance materials. The company has six businesses – Biopharmaceuticals, Consumer Health, Allergopharma, Biosimilars, Life Science and Performance Materials – and generated sales of € 11.3 billion in 2014. Around 39,000 employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to foster the success of customers and to help meet global challenges. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company – since 1668, the company has stood for innovation, business success and responsible entrepreneurship. Holding an approximately 70% interest, the founding family remains the majority owner of the company to this day. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany holds the global rights to the Merck name and brand. The only exceptions are Canada and the United States, where the company operates as EMD Serono, EMD Millipore and EMD Performance Materials.