

News Release

Your Contact

Markus Talanow +49 6151 72-7144
Investor Relations +49 6151 72-3321

November 10, 2015

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Set to Complete Sigma-Aldrich Acquisition

- **European Commission approves sale of divestment business to Honeywell**
- **Completion of \$17 billion Sigma-Aldrich transaction scheduled to take place on November 18**
- **Transaction to give company leading position in life science industry with expanded portfolio, capabilities and geographic reach**

Darmstadt, Germany, November 10, 2015 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, today announced that following the final approval of the European Commission it is set to complete its \$17 billion (€13.1 billion) acquisition of Sigma-Aldrich.

The European Commission had granted conditional approval to the acquisition of Sigma-Aldrich on June 15, 2015, subject to the divestment of certain Sigma-Aldrich assets. On October 20, 2015, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, announced an agreement to sell parts of Sigma-Aldrich's solvents and inorganics business to Honeywell. Now that the European Commission has approved that transaction, all necessary closing requirements have been fulfilled for Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, to complete the acquisition of Sigma-Aldrich. The formal completion date is scheduled for November 18, with the delisting of Sigma-Aldrich's stock from NASDAQ taking effect following completion.

"We've reached the home stretch and are set to complete the largest acquisition in our almost 350-year history," said Karl-Ludwig Kley, CEO and Chairman of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. "With this acquisition we will become a leading player



News Release

in the \$130 billion life science industry with almost 20,000 people, 300,000 products and thousands of patents coming together to help our customers tackle the toughest problems in life science with innovative solutions.”

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and Sigma-Aldrich announced on September 22, 2014 that they had entered into a definitive agreement under which Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, would acquire all outstanding shares of Sigma-Aldrich for \$140 per share in cash. Today’s final approval of the European Commission follows the approval of the acquisition by Sigma-Aldrich’s shareholders at a special meeting held on December 5, 2014 and the satisfaction of other customary conditions, including antitrust clearance in the United States, China, Japan and several other countries.

All Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, press releases are distributed by e-mail at the same time they become available on the EMD Group Website. In case you are a resident of the USA or Canada please go to www.emdgroup.com/subscribe to register again for your online subscription of this service as our newly introduced geo-targeting requires new links in the email. You may later change your selection or discontinue this service.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 40,000 employees work to further develop technologies that improve and enhance life – from biopharmaceutical therapies to treat cancer or multiple sclerosis, cutting-edge systems for scientific research and production, to liquid crystals for smartphones and LCD televisions. In 2014, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 11.3 billion in 66 countries.

Founded in 1668, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company. The founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed corporate group. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, holds the global rights to the Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, EMD Millipore and EMD Performance Materials.