

News Release

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Dietmar Eidens Appointed Chief HR Officer (CHRO) of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

- **Kai Beckmann retains Executive Board responsibility for Group Human Resources**

Darmstadt, Germany, July 15, 2016 – Merck KGaA Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, today announced that Kai Beckmann, member of the Executive Board, will hand over the leadership of Human Resources (HR) to Dietmar Eidens (58) as of October 1. To date, Beckmann has performed this function concurrent to his position as member of the Executive Board. He will remain the Executive Board member of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, responsible for Human Resources. The future Chief HR Officer (CHRO) of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is currently head of the global HR Business Partner organization and will continue to report to Kai Beckmann.

“I wish Dietmar Eidens all the best and every success in his new position,” said Kai Beckmann. “With his extensive experience in the Human Resources field and excellent knowledge of the company, he is superbly qualified to lead this function. I look forward to working with him in the future and am certain that we will successfully continue the development of Human Resources together.”

Dietmar Eidens joined Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, in Geneva as Head of HR for Pharmaceuticals in 2009. As of 2011, he became HR business partner for Healthcare, transferring to Darmstadt in January 2013. He became head of the global HR Business Partner organization at Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, in 2015. Since that time, he has been a driver of the group’s further internationalization.

Page 1 of 2



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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 50,000 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 2015, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 12.85 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, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.