

## News Release

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

September 25, 2017

### **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Wins Accolades for its Capital Market Communication**

Darmstadt, Germany, September 25, 2017 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, today announced has taken first place in the “Investors’ Darling” ranking, a capital market competition held annually by the Leipzig Graduate School of Management (Chair of Accounting and Auditing, Professor Henning Zülch) and the German business journal “Manager Magazin”. The assessment covered the capital market communication of 160 companies included in various DAX indices. The key criteria are the extent to which a clear picture of the strategy is conveyed and whether a company reports transparently on its economic position. In 2016, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, had already achieved second place among the companies included in the German DAX 30 blue-chip index before moving to the top this year.

“We attach great importance to comprehensible and transparent capital market communication and are pleased that this is being recognized. We deliberately pursue dialogue-oriented communication. A constant exchange with the financial community is very important to us,” said Marcus Kuhnert, Member of the Executive Board and Chief Financial Officer of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

The assessment assigns a weighting of 40% to the quality of the annual and quarterly reports. The capital market perspective (investor survey and share price performance) and Investor Relations work (of which 20% goes to IR presentations and 10% to the IR website) each have a weighting of 30%.

Page 1 of 2



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](http://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.

**About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany**

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 2016, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 15.0 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“ name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.