

## News Release

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# **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany Opens OLED Technology Center China in Shanghai**

- **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany supports OLED industry development in China by investing in local application lab**
- **The center will provide customers with tailor-made solutions to enable further innovation and drive applications for OLED in China**

Darmstadt, Germany, June 20, 2018 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, today announced the opening of its new OLED Technology Center China today in the Pilot Free Trade Zone, Shanghai, China. The new center will provide local customers with customized solutions to enable innovative OLED application development.

“To strengthen our commitment to the display industry in China, we are proud to open our OLED Technology Center in Shanghai which complements the existing Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany OLED application labs in other Asian countries.” said Michael Heckmeier, Head of the Display Solutions business unit of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. “The new center supports our mission of working closely alongside our customers as a trusted, local partner to drive innovation and shorten their time to market.”



The OLED Technology Center in China offers a range of state-of-the-art equipment and cleanroom facilities to enable OLED device fabrication and characterization. This location will serve as a collaboration space for customers and Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany as they work together to generate the ideal solutions for OLED display products. This investment reflects Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany's customer-centric approach of developing highly pure, reliable, and efficient OLED materials for innovative products in line with market requirements and in support of customer innovations.

"China has become the largest market for smartphones and consumer electronics, which shows significant potential for flat panels. As the global market and technology leader in display solutions, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is gearing up to become a front-runner among global players in OLED materials," emphasized Allan Gabor, Managing Director of the Performance Materials business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany in China. "We are committed to the close cooperation with our partners in China to even better understand their products and needs, optimize device performance with harmonized materials, and drive innovation right here in our local OLED Technology Center which is supported by our global network."

According to a report in Economy & Nation Weekly magazine in China, nine sixth-generation flexible AMOLED display screen production lines in China have been constructed or are currently being constructed. The total investment amounting to RMB 157.5 billion ranks first in the world. It is estimated by IHS Markit that by 2020, China's OLED display production capacity will account for 28% of the global market, making China the second-largest supplier of OLED displays in the world.

The OLED Technology Center China is located at the Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany Performance Materials China Hub in Shanghai, where Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany has made continuous investments, for example in the Liquid Crystal Center China in 2013, the Display Materials R&D Center in 2016 and Surface Solutions Technology Application Network China in 2017.



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**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 2017, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 15.3 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“ name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.

**About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany in China**

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany has been in China for over 80 years. In 1933, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany founded E. Merck Chemical Co., Ltd., its first subsidiary in Shanghai.

China is one of the most strategically important countries for Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and has become a global center of innovation for the company. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany's Healthcare in Nantong, Life Science in Nantong and Performance Materials in Shanghai have investments of 170 million Euros, 80 million Euros, and 44 million Euros respectively. Additionally, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany hosts a global Healthcare R&D hub in Beijing, Performance Materials R&D centers, and Life Science labs in Shanghai.

Every day, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany's 3,200 committed employees in China are delivering high-quality, innovative products in healthcare, life science and performance materials which have a significant impact on people's lives.