

News Release

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Leadership Change within Group Communications at Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

Darmstadt, Germany, August 6, 2020 – Constantin Birnstiel (49), Head of Group Communications since 2017, is leaving Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, upon his own request. He is being succeeded with immediate effect by Thomas Möller (44). The company made this announcement today in conjunction with the publication of its half-year results.

“I cordially thank Constantin Birnstiel for his engagement and the results achieved in positioning Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, as a science and technology company as well as in purposefully advancing our communications activities. I wish him continued success and all the best,” said Stefan Oschmann, Chairman of the Executive Board and CEO of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. “Thomas Möller is an experienced communications professional with excellent knowledge of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. I am really looking forward to collaborating with him further.”

Constantin Birnstiel joined Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, in 2017 after having worked for Siemens, Osram, E.ON, and Uniper. The 350th anniversary celebrations, the divestment of the Consumer Health business and the acquisition of Versum Materials took place during his time as Head of Group Communications. Furthermore, Birnstiel was responsible for building the company's brand identity in China. Together with Möller, Birnstiel established the company's global newsroom, which was successfully launched at the beginning of 2020. Over the past several years, the two have also resolutely driven the digitalization of Group Communications.

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Thomas Möller joined Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, in 2017 and was most recently responsible for Corporate Communications. Before coming to Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, he worked for BASF and held various Corporate Communications positions in Germany, the United States and Switzerland. Like his predecessor, he will report directly to Stefan Oschmann, Chairman of the Executive Board and CEO.

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About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, operates across healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 57,000 employees work to make a positive difference to millions of people's lives every day by creating more joyful and sustainable ways to live. From advancing gene editing technologies and discovering unique ways to treat the most challenging diseases to enabling the intelligence of devices – the company is everywhere. In 2019, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 16.2 billion in 66 countries.

The company holds the global rights to the name and trademark "Merck" internationally. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the business sectors of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany operate as EMD Serono in healthcare, MilliporeSigma in life science, and EMD Performance Materials. Since its founding 1668, scientific exploration and responsible entrepreneurship have been key to the company's technological and scientific advances. To this day, the founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed company.