

News Release

Your Contact

friederike.segeberg@emdgroup.com

Phone: +49 151 1454 6328

January 27, 2020

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Invests in State-Of-The-Art Biotech Development Facility in Switzerland

- **€ 250 million to be invested over the 2019-2022 period in new facility bridging research and manufacturing**
- **Investment driven by growth of R&D pipeline reflects the company's commitment to speed up availability of new medicines to patients**

Corsier-sur-Vevey, Switzerland, January 27, 2020 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, today announced an investment of € 250 million in a new facility in Corsier-sur-Vevey, Switzerland – the Biotech Development Center – dedicated to biotech development and manufacturing for clinical studies. Driven by the growth of the Healthcare business sector R&D pipeline, this investment will help to sustainably secure capacity and high agility to deliver clinical trial material in a cost-effective way, contribute to accelerated development timelines of new biological entities, and address the increasing manufacturing complexity of the next generations of biotech compounds.

“This investment in the Biotech Development Center reflects our commitment to speed up the availability of new medicines for patients in need, and confirms the importance of Switzerland as our prime hub for the manufacturing of biotech medicines,” said Stefan Oschmann, Chairman of the Executive Board and CEO of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new facility held today.



News Release

“Our investment in this biotech development facility in Switzerland is strongly related to the growth and progression of our Healthcare pipeline, and our confidence in its future potential,” said Belén Garijo, Member of the Executive Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and CEO Healthcare.

Located near the company’s current biotech commercial manufacturing site in Corsier-sur-Vevey, Switzerland, the Biotech Development Center will bridge together research and manufacturing. The facility will consist of a building providing a total of 15,700 square meters of development space bringing together a cross-functional team of approximately 250 employees spread across different sites today, responsible for advancing the company’s biotech R&D pipeline by ensuring that its next generation of biotech therapies are available for clinical trials on time, on quality and on quantity.

Equipped with the most advanced digital solutions and highest technological standards, including continuous manufacturing and laboratory automation, the Biotech Development Center will offer a flexible-by-design infrastructure to readily adapt to emerging needs and technology evolution, as well as open workspaces enabling collaboration, creativity and innovation. Everything will be designed to comply with the highest international standards of quality, environment, health and safety. Sustainable features in the new building will include an abundance of natural light, a highly efficient energy management, as well as an architectural design integrated into the landscape following the contours of the slope and preserving biodiversity with special habitats promoting wildlife and protected flora.

The Biotech Development Center will showcase Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany science and technology across its three business sectors, including Life Sciences’ process solutions for clinical manufacturing and pilot plant operations, as well as Performance Materials’ eyrise® dynamic liquid crystal windows as part of the highly efficient energy management of the building. The construction of the building is expected to be completed in 2021 and the Biotech Development Center is anticipated to be fully operational by the end of 2022 following validation by regulatory authorities.

News Release

The Biotech Development Center adds to recent investments aiming to further increase the company's capacities in the research, development and manufacturing of medicines, such as the expansions of the R&D facility of Billerica, United States, of the biotech manufacturing site of Aubonne, Switzerland, and of the pharma manufacturing site of Darmstadt, Germany. With the existing sites of Corsier-sur-Vevey and Aubonne and the future Biotech Development Center, Switzerland further confirms its position as the prime hub for the manufacturing and development of the biotech medicines of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. The company has invested more than one billion Swiss francs in Switzerland over the past ten years, reflecting the strategic importance of the country, where it employs more than 2,400 employees across 9 locations.

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 for your online subscription of this service as our 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, a leading science and technology company, operates across healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 56,000 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 2018, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 14.8 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.