

News Release

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Receives EU Commission Supplementary Statement of Objections in the Proceedings Concerning the Sigma-Aldrich Acquisition

Darmstadt, Germany, July 1, 2020 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, today received a Supplementary Statement of Objections (SSO) from the European Commission (EU Commission) in the ongoing proceedings concerning the Sigma-Aldrich acquisition, which was completed in 2015. In July 2017, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, received a Statement of Objections from the European Commission. This relates to a packaging technology developed by Sigma-Aldrich prior to its acquisition by Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

The SSO states that the allegations previously made against Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, will be dropped. The SSO retains allegations made against Sigma-Aldrich, which will be the object of the ongoing proceedings.

From the very beginning of the antitrust review proceeding, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, has cooperated and engaged in a constructive dialogue with the European Commission.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is confident that it will be possible to resolve the situation satisfactorily. Since this matter is still ongoing, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, will not comment any further on it at this point in time.



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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.