

News Release

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Today, May 4, 2021, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, has published the following ad hoc news:

Merck KGaA Darmstadt, Germany, raises forecast for full year 2021

Disclosure of inside information pursuant to Article 17 of the Regulation (EU) No 596/2014

Darmstadt, May 4, 2021. Based on high demand expected to continue throughout the year and a very strong first quarter of 2021 with net sales of EUR 4.63 bn resulting in EBITDA pre¹ of EUR 1.51 bn and EPS pre¹ of EUR 2.18, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, (the "Company") has raised its forecast for the entire group for fiscal 2021. The Company now projects net sales of approx. EUR 18.5 – 19.5 bn (previously "strong organic growth"). EBITDA pre¹ is anticipated to grow to approx. EUR 5.4 – 5.8 bn for the group (previously "organic: high single-digit to low teens growth"). EPS pre¹ is projected to amount to approx. EUR 7.50 – 8.20.

The Company will publish first-quarter 2021 figures as scheduled on 12 May 2021.

¹ EBITDA pre and EPS pre are alternative performance measures not defined by international accounting standards, used by the Company to improve the comparability of business performance over time and within the industry. EBITDA pre means earnings before interest, income tax, depreciation and amortization as well as adjustments (Ergebnis vor Zinsen, Ertragsteuern, Abschreibungen und Anpassungen). EPS pre means profit after tax including adjustments per theoretical shares outstanding (see Merck Annual Report 2020).

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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 electronics. Around 58,000 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 2020, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 17.5 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 Electronics. Since its founding in 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.