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News Release

March 26, 2014

Share Split To Make Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Shares More Attractive to Private Investors

- **Shares to be divided in a ratio of 2:1**
- **Shareholders to decide at the Annual General Meeting on May 9**

Darmstadt, Germany, March 26 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in the pharmaceutical and chemical sectors, today announced that it plans to propose to its shareholders at the Annual General Meeting on May 9 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, a 2:1 share split.

“Over the past three years, the value of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, shares has doubled, mainly thanks to the resolute implementation of our ‘Fit for 2018’ transformation and growth program. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is in excellent financial health. For one year now, the price of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, shares has consistently been well over € 100. Through a share split, we want to make Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, shares more attractive to private investors,” said Karl-Ludwig Kley, Chairman of the Executive Board.

One existing no-par value share of the company with a pro rata amount of the share capital of € 2.60 is to be split into two no-par value shares, each with a pro rata amount of the share capital of € 1.30. This liquidity-supporting measure, which will not alter the value of the company, would double the number of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, shares while the share price will be divided in half. No new funds will be added to the company. The share capital of the company amounting to € 168,014,927.60 is currently divided into 64,621,126 no-par value shares.

Merck KGaA

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On March 25, 2014, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, shares (ISIN: DE 000 659 9905, WKN: 659 990) closed at € 120.95 in XETRA trading. The invitation to the Annual General Meeting and further information can be found [here](#).

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 again for your online subscription of this service as our newly introduced 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 of Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in the pharmaceutical and chemical sectors. Its subsidiaries in Canada and the United States operate under the umbrella brand EMD. Around 38,000 employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to further the success of customers and to help meet global challenges. The company generated total revenues of € 11.1 billion in 2013 with its four divisions: Biopharmaceuticals, Consumer Health, Performance Materials and Life Science Tools. Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany, is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company – since 1668, the name has stood for innovation, business success and responsible entrepreneurship. Holding an approximately 70 percent interest, the founding family remains the majority



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owner of the company to this day.