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News Release

September 18, 2015

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and Tridonic Enter Into License Agreement for White LEDs

Darmstadt, Germany, September 18, 2015 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in the healthcare, life science and performance materials sectors, announced today that it has entered into a license agreement with Tridonic Jennersdorf GmbH (Tridonic) covering silicate phosphors for use in white light LEDs.

Along with Toyoda Gosei Co. Ltd. (Japan), Leuchtstoffwerk Breitung GmbH (Germany), and Litec GbR (Germany), Tridonic holds basic patents relating to a technology to generate white light using blue LEDs and novel yellow silicate phosphors. This combination of silicate phosphors applied to blue LED chips enable manufacturing of packaged white LEDs with high accuracy and high brightness. Primary applications include backlights for cell phones, laptops, GPS and other small displays, which account for a high share of today's global LED market.

Tridonic is now granting a material license to Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, to manufacture and market the silicate phosphor materials for potential use in white light LEDs. The license agreement with Tridonic gives Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, full potential to manufacture and offer silicate phosphors for use in white LEDs. Through this license agreement, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is now joining the circle of phosphor manufacturers with a material license. Customers of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, may now purchase phosphor materials manufactured under the Tridonic license.

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Merck KGaA

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and Tridonic are pleased to announce this license agreement and look forward to exploiting new business opportunities based on this agreement.

About Tridonic (www.tridonic.com):

As a leading global provider of smart and efficient lighting solutions, Tridonic today empowers its customers and business partners to become more successful by making their lighting smarter, more exciting, and more sustainable. Our component lighting solutions deliver superior quality, highest reliability, and impressive energy savings to provide our customers with a strong competitive edge. The company continuously brings new innovations and state-of-the-art lighting solutions to market. 95 percent of all R&D projects are devoted to the development of new LED and connected lighting technologies. Thanks to the in-depth expertise and knowhow in vertical lighting applications (for instance in Retail, Office & Education, Outdoor, and Industry), leading luminaire manufacturers, architects, electrical and lighting planners, electrical installers and wholesalers rely on Tridonic for both indoor and outdoor lighting needs.

As part of the Zumtobel Group, Tridonic is headquartered in Dornbirn, Austria, and in fiscal year 2014/15 generated sales of 393.8 million EUR. 1,750 highly skilled employees and a worldwide sales presence in 51 countries reflect Tridonic's commitment to accelerating the development and deployment of new, smart, and connected lighting applications. With more than 40 million light points installed every year, Tridonic is perfectly positioned to play a decisive role in leveraging lighting as a key enabler and important infrastructure for connected lighting (Internet of Things).

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 healthcare, life science and performance materials. The company has six businesses – Biopharmaceuticals, Consumer Health, Allergopharma, Biosimilars, Life Science and Performance Materials – and generated sales of € 11.3 billion in 2014. Around 39,000 employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to foster the success of customers and to help meet global challenges. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company – since 1668, the company has stood for innovation, business success and responsible entrepreneurship. Holding an approximately 70% interest, the founding family remains the majority owner of the company to this day. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany holds the global rights to the Merck name and brand. The only exceptions are Canada and the United States, where the company operates as EMD Serono, EMD Millipore and EMD Performance Materials.