

News Release

Your Contact

Nina Diergardt

+49 6151 72-7589

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Pigment Innovation at the Laser World of Photonics 2017

- **New laser pigment from the Iriotec® 8000 series with fast reaction time offers two new benefits**
- **Dark marking of colored polymers**
- **Laser marking of PE films**

Darmstadt, Germany, June 22, 2017 – Merck, a leading science and technology company, will present a new pigment for laser marking in a new application field at the Laser World of Photonics 2017 exhibition from June 26 to 29 in Munich. Iriotec® 8826 is particularly suitable for dark and high-contrast marking of colored polymers and for the first time enables the laser marking of films.

Invisible – but highly effective

A poster hanging at the Merck stand asks “Can a material disappear, while its function remains?”. The answer can be found at the booth: The product innovation being presented, Iriotec® 8826, is a pigment powder that can be incorporated into a polymer with neutral color impact. Its effect is invisible until an infrared laser is used. The marking is so quick that the surrounding material remains unaffected by the light while Iriotec® 8826 generates a dark, high-contrast marking even at low concentrations. The new laser pigment can be used to label cables with different colored sheaths, for instance, which provides permanent, reliable orientation in big bundles of cables.

The fast reaction time of Iriotec® 8826 also opens up a completely new application: This pigment can be used to permanently label films with laser light – without



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damaging the material in any way. The combination of PE film and infrared laser is thus unique.

All advantages of laser marking

This new product also offers all the advantages of the full range of Iriotec® 8000 laser pigments from Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. The marking is embedded in the material and not on the surface. It is permanent and cannot be removed, and it is efficient and cost-effective because it is created without the need for consumables or for surface preparation.

Industry experts attending the Laser World of Photonics 2017 can experience this pigment innovation from Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and its application possibilities in **Hall A3, Stand 415**.

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 50,000 employees work to further develop technologies that improve and enhance life – from biopharmaceutical therapies to treat cancer or multiple sclerosis, cutting-edge systems for scientific research and production, to liquid crystals for smartphones and LCD televisions. In 2016, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 15.0 billion in 66 countries. Founded in 1668, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company. The founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed corporate group. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, holds the global rights to the „Merck“ name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.