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News Release

October 13, 2015

Stefan Oschmann Appointed New Executive Board Chairman of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

Darmstadt, Germany, October 13, 2015 – In its meeting today, the Board of Partners of E. Merck KG appointed Stefan Oschmann (58) as new Chairman of the Executive Board and CEO of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. The appointment will take effect with the end of the Annual General Meeting on April 29, 2016. Stefan Oschmann will succeed Karl-Ludwig Kley (64) who will retire after then nine years as head of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

Stefan Oschman has been a member of the Executive Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, since 2011. He was initially in charge of the pharma business before being appointed as Deputy Chairman of the Executive Board and Deputy CEO at the beginning of 2015, responsible for strategy and innovation.

„Under the leadership of Karl-Ludwig Kley, the company has gone through the biggest transformation in its almost 350-year history. This entailed building and expanding no fewer than three strong global businesses that are able to provide ground-breaking solutions for patients and customers and secure growth and affluence for our 40.000 employees,” said Johannes Baillou, Chairman of the Board of Partners of E. Merck KG. “We want to express our deep gratitude and respect for his achievements. We’re equally happy to have found a successor in Stefan Oschmann early on, whose strategic foresight and strong leadership have turned Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, into a respected player in the pharma industry again. We’re convinced that he will take the right steps to position the company in a way that will allow it to continue to actively shape an environment that has been experiencing fundamental scientific and digital changes.”

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Merck KGaA

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From what used to be a company with a diverse portfolio in pharma and chemicals, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, since 2006 has evolved into a specialized high-tech company in the areas of healthcare, life science and performance materials. Today the company holds leading positions in fertility treatments, process solutions for the biotech industry or liquid crystal displays. Following mergers and acquisitions totaling around €38 billion as well as organic growth sales will have doubled to more than €12 billion this year compared with the 2005 level. Two change programs have resulted in a leaner organization capable of driving innovation in an efficient manner.

Prior to joining Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Stefan Oschmann worked for more than 20 years for the pharmaceutical company MSD Merck Sharp & Dohme (in the U.S.: Merck & Co.). He is president of the [IFPMA](#) (International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations) and Vice President of [EFPIA](#) (European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations).

Karl-Ludwig Kley had already been a member of the Supervisory Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and the Board of Partners of E. Merck KG since 2004. In 2006 he became Deputy Chairman of the Executive Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, before taking over as Chairman in 2007. Prior to that, he was Chief Financial Officer at Deutsche Lufthansa for eight years and joined the airline's supervisory board in 2013. He is Deputy Chairman of the supervisory board of BMW and member of the supervisory board of Bertelsmann. In addition, he is vice president of the German Chemicals Association (VCI) and member of the steering committee of the Federation of German Industries (BDI).

About E. Merck KG

E. Merck KG combines the financial interests of the Merck family and, holding an interest of around 70%, is general partner of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. The Board of Partners of E. Merck is comparable to the supervisory board of a German stock corporation (AG). It is responsible for appointment the members of the Executive Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and for monitoring them.



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Notes to editors

[CV](#) of Stefan Oschmann

[Pictures](#) of Stefan Oschmann as well as of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

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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.