



DIREVO and BASF announce sale of Direvo's novel engineered enzyme to BASF

Ludwigshafen and Cologne, Germany – February 14, 2012 - BASF SE, a leader in sustainable animal nutrition based in Ludwigshafen, Germany and Direvo, an industrial biotechnology expert from Cologne, Germany, announce the recent sale of Direvo's novel feed enzyme to BASF. Direvo applied its expertise in industrial biotechnology to discover, develop and optimize a mannanase enzyme that meets the needs of the feed industry.

Direvo's tailor-made feed enzyme is an optimized and improved mannanase. It displays superior temperature stability and efficacy. This novel enzyme will complement the existing range of feed enzymes that BASF currently markets.

"There is no comparable enzyme on the market," said Dr. Jorg Riesmeier, CEO of Direvo Industrial Biotechnology GmbH. "In bringing this program to a successful sale, Direvo has again demonstrated the versatility and power of its proprietary technology platform." Enzyme engineering brings several of Direvo's core competencies into play, including high-throughput screening and assay development.

"We are pleased that our unique enzyme with optimal characteristics for the animal feed industry is enabling BASF to accelerate work on efficient and sustainable nutrition" he added.

"Enzymes are one of the focus areas of our innovation activities," said Dr. Martin Jager Global Head of BASF's Animal Nutrition Business. "Direvo's mannanase is an innovative product with excellent market potential due to its combination of temperature and pelleting stability. This technology package broadens our enzyme know how and enhances our capabilities to make future animal nutrition more efficient and cost-effective."

About Direvo Industrial Biotechnology GmbH

Direvo is a biotechnology company with a focus on the biomass conversion industry. Direvo identifies bottlenecks and weaknesses in current industrial processes in this sector and develops and implements biology-based solutions together with large and small industrial partners. Direvo's products are newly designed enzymes and microorganisms of the highest quality that provide easy-to-implement, cost-effective solutions. Direvo's contribution assures that our partners stay competitive and profitable while we add to their ability to make the future cleaner, greener and safer. More information about Direvo is available on the internet at www.direvo.com.

About BASF

BASF is the world's leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products and crop protection products to oil and gas. We combine economic success, social responsibility and environmental protection. Through science and innovation we enable our customers in almost all industries to meet the current and future needs of society. Our products and system solutions contribute to conserving resources, ensuring healthy food and nutrition and helping to improve the quality of life. We have summed up this contribution in our corporate purpose: We create chemistry for a sustainable future. BASF posted sales of about € 63.9 billion in 2010 and had approximately 109,000 employees as of the end of 2010. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.basf.com or in the Social Media Newsroom at newsroom.basf.com.

About Animal Nutrition

BASF is a global leader in sustainable animal nutrition – offering vitamins, carotenoids, enzymes, organic acids, and specialties for all types of feed. BASF's products are mainly fed to ruminants, poultry, pigs, farmed fish, and companion animals. Innovative products (such as Natugrain® TS), modern technologies (including white biotechnology), and BASF's leading sustainability concept (S.E.T.) pave the way for making animal nutrition not only more efficient and cost-effective, but also more sustainable. BASF's expert teams help the nutrition industry analyze and systematically improve the efficiency and sustainability of its products and make verifiable value propositions to the entire value chain up to and including consumers. BASF is firmly committed to supporting efforts to sustainably provide enough food for the world's growing population – both today and in the future. For more information visit www.animal-nutrition.basf.com and www.set-initiative.basf.com.

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