News Release

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Leading the way in respect of quality standards for pharmaceutical excipients

- **BASF's Geismar site meets the strict requirements of the United States Pharmacopeia**

Ludwigshafen, Germany – June 19, 2008 – BASF's site in Geismar, Louisiana/USA is one of the first in the world to meet the strict quality standards of the United States Pharmacopeia (USP) for the production of pharmaceutical excipients. Following a detailed audit, the polyvinylpyrrolidones (PVPs) made at this site were certified under the new "USP Excipient Verification Program". PVP is sold throughout the world by BASF under the trade name Kollidon® and is used in the pharmaceutical industry primarily as a binder for tablets. The active ingredient PVP-Iodine, a highly efficient and very compatible disinfectant which is also produced in Geismar, also satisfies the USP requirements and has been certified successfully.

Up until now, the production of pharmaceutical excipients has not been subject to the same strict guidelines as active ingredients. BASF is committing itself, voluntarily, to complying with the requirements of current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP for short) with regard to the manufacture of excipients.

"With this commitment to the USP's strict requirements, we are providing assurance to our customers in the pharmaceutical industry and thus, ultimately, to the patients who are taking medication,"

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stresses Dr. Tim Bölke, who is responsible at BASF for the global marketing of excipients and active ingredients. “The USP certificate is written evidence of our high quality standards. Reliable manufacturing processes and high-quality products are our top priority.”

The United States Pharmacopeia is an independent institution that sets general standards for pharmaceutical excipients and active pharmaceutical ingredients in the United States of America in the form of monographs. With its Verification Program, the USP is reacting to the population’s growing concern about the quality of the constituents in pharmaceutical products. Certification involves not only examination of compliance with cGMP guidelines, but also of the documentation of production checks and quality checks. In addition, product samples are analyzed in the laboratory.

Note for editors:

A press photo can be downloaded from the Internet at www.basf.de/pressefoto, under the keyword “Health”.

About the business unit Pharma Ingredients & Services

BASF produces and markets a broad range of active ingredients and excipients, as well as exclusive synthesis services for the pharmaceutical industry. These products are made using the latest technologies, to the highest quality standards and in compliance with cGMP guidelines.
Further information can be found at: www.pharma-ingredients.basf.com.

About BASF

BASF is the world’s leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from oil and gas to chemicals, plastics, performance products, agricultural products and fine chemicals. As a reliable partner BASF helps its customers in virtually all industries to be more successful. With its high-value products and intelligent solutions, BASF plays an important role in finding answers to global challenges such as climate protection, energy efficiency, nutrition and

mobility. BASF has more than 95,000 employees and posted sales of almost € 58 billion in 2007. Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.basf.com.