

# News Release

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## **BASF Environmental Catalyst and Metal Solutions celebrates 50 years in Huntsville and the production of its 500 millionth catalyst**

Huntsville, AL – BASF Environmental Catalyst and Metal Solutions (ECMS) representatives, along with local and state officials, today celebrated the 50th year of operations and the production of the 500 millionth catalyst at the entity’s site in Huntsville.

“Since the Huntsville site’s inception in 1973, we’ve continuously invested in innovative processes and equipment to help our customers reduce air pollution and we’ve continuously invested in our most important asset – our people,” said Ray Weed, Huntsville Site Director. “Our 50th anniversary and the production of our 500 millionth catalyst represent more than just numbers, they symbolize the unwavering dedication and hard work of our teams through the years.”

Over the years BASF has expanded the Huntsville location to become ECMS’s largest automotive catalyst site. More than 700 employees and contractors work at the site. In 2022, the site’s economic impact included an annual payroll of \$73.6 million and payment of \$1.2 million in local and state taxes.

“I’ve witnessed the transformative effects of companies like BASF on our local communities and the broader economy. BASF has not only contributed to the growth of Huntsville but has also been a driving force in Alabama’s economic development,” said Greg Canfield, Secretary of Commerce for the State of Alabama.

BASF pioneered the emission control catalyst at the Huntsville facility, with the first catalytic converters appearing in 1975-model cars. This breakthrough invention used in all vehicles with an internal combustion engine converts hazardous

compounds such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons into naturally occurring compounds like carbon dioxide, nitrogen and water, leading to a reduction in air pollution. To date, BASF catalysts have eliminated billions of tons of air pollutants.

“I want to express our sincere gratitude to our respected customers who have trusted us to supply them with high-quality catalysts over many years,” said Melissa Matejek, Vice President, Americas and Global Key Accounts, ECMS Mobile Emissions Catalysts. “It is the continuous collaboration with them that makes it possible for us to develop and produce advanced technologies to meet strict emissions standards. Without our customers, we wouldn't be here today celebrating this extraordinary milestone.”

The past half century has also seen the site invested as a community partner in Huntsville with involvement in more than a dozen community groups and the establishment of the BASF Career Institute. The Institute collaborates with career coaches and directors as well as counselors to pave a path for area high school seniors aspiring to join the manufacturing industry.

“Our Huntsville site is a crucial part of our global production network,” said Jan Oldenburg, Vice President, Global Operations, ECMS Mobile Emissions Catalysts. “Since the world’s first catalyst was produced 50 years ago, the site has made a significant impact in making the air we breathe cleaner. I am very proud of the Huntsville site, the milestone we are celebrating today is only possible because of our dedicated team.”

For more information about the Huntsville site, visit [www.basf.us/alabama](http://www.basf.us/alabama)

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## **About BASF Environmental Catalyst and Metal Solutions**

Leveraging its deep expertise as the global leader in catalysis and precious metals, BASF Environmental Catalyst and Metal Solutions (ECMS) serves customers in many industries including automotive, aerospace, indoor air quality, semiconductors and hydrogen economy, and provides full loop services with its precious metals trading and recycling offering. With a focus on circular solutions and sustainability, ECMS is committed to helping our customers create a cleaner, more sustainable world. Protecting our elements of life is our purpose and this inspires us to ever-new solutions.

ECMS operates globally in 15 countries with over 4,500 employees and 20 production sites

### **About BASF**

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. More than 111,000 employees in the BASF Group contribute to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio comprises six segments: Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care and Agricultural Solutions. BASF generated sales of €87.3 billion in 2022. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchange in Frankfurt (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the United States. Further information at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).