



News Release

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EMD Performance Materials becomes strategic partner of EvoNexus

- **EMD Performance Materials partners with technology incubator EvoNexus to gain access and insights into new technologies developed by start-ups in the US**

Philadelphia, USA, February 7, 2019 – EMD Performance Materials, the North America high-tech materials business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, today announced that the Performance Materials business sector will become a strategic partner to EvoNexus, a high-tech start-up incubator with locations in San Diego and Irvine, California. EvoNexus provides benefits to incubated start-ups, including alignment with other strategic partners and capital providers, long-term residency (up to 2 years), milestone-based incubation structure, and an extensive network of mentors, serial entrepreneurs and executives-in-residence, in addition to office and lab facilities optimized for collaboration and technology development.

“We operate in a complex ecosystem that makes it impossible to follow all developments and trends ourselves. This makes it all the more important to keep a close eye on technology developments and to enter into external partnerships in addition to having strong in-house R&D. Our partnership with EvoNexus puts us at ground zero for emerging technologies and use cases for our core businesses,” said Luiz Vieira, managing director and president of EMD Performance Materials in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

"EvoNexus excels at incubating start-ups in deep technology areas. Our program is structured to allow these companies to reach important inflection points that enable them to secure early stage capital, develop corporate partnerships that refine their product strategy, build a minimal viable product and secure a priced venture round. A recent example is an EvoNexus start-up semiconductor company that went from concept to working silicon and closed a \$25M Series B financing from top-tier corporate investors in 14 months. The EvoNexus organization is honored to work with EMD Performance Materials, a business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany a 350-year-old iconic German company to create products and technologies that impact their core businesses," said Rory Moore, CEO and Co-founder, EvoNexus of the new strategic partnership with EMD Performance Materials.

Within the scope of the EvoNexus and EMD Performance Materials partnership, a new group of start-up companies will be recruited and developed with an emphasis on areas of strategic interest to EMD Performance Materials in novel technologies, as well as for new materials in existing areas such as advanced displays, next-generation semiconductor materials and functional additives for surface coatings. EMD Performance Materials will refine the areas of interest and selection criteria of the application round and participate in evaluating the applicants for potential partnerships, investment and admission to the EvoNexus incubator program. More details can be found at www.evonexus.org. Additionally, Michael Matthews, EMD Performance Material's Director of Partnerships, will join Evonexus' Advisory Board.

For more information about collaboration opportunities with EMD Performance Materials, please contact the partnerships team on the [website](#).

About EvoNexus

EvoNexus is Southern California's leading start-up incubator with locations in San Diego and Irvine. We enable motivated entrepreneurs to turn their transformative technologies into fundable, commercially-viable companies. Since 2010, \$1.6B in funding and acquisition outcomes have been achieved by EvoNexus start-ups. A total of 24 EvoNexus start-ups have been acquired since 2013. EvoNexus is supported by corporate investors, including some of the largest multinational corporations in the world. Its companies enjoy Class A offices and dry lab spaces provided by California's leading real estate developer, The Irvine Company.

About EMD Performance Materials

EMD Performance Materials is the North America high-tech materials business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, comprising a portfolio of applications in fields such as consumer electronics, semiconductors, lighting, coatings, printing technology, plastics, and cosmetics.

Key products include display materials, LED materials for lighting as well as OLED materials for lighting and displays, functional materials for solar panels and energy solutions, effect pigments as well as active ingredients and fillers for cosmetics, food products, effect pigments and functional materials for coatings, printing and plastics and high-purity specialty chemical materials for the electronics and semiconductor industry. Today, the business has about 500 employees around the country with main operations in Philadelphia (PA). For more information, please visit www.emd-pm.com.

About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Almost 53,000 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 2017, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 15.3 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.