

News Release



BASF launches Kollidon® VA 64 Fine

- **New binder helps to optimize customers' production processes**
- **Production of tablets with increased hardness now possible**

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Karin Moeschke

Phone: +49 621 60 28363

Fax: +49 621 60 28050

karin.moeschke@basf-ag.de

BASF will present a new binder for tablet production, Kollidon® VA 64 Fine, at the pharmaceutical industry's most important tradeshow, the Convention on Pharmaceutical Ingredients (CPhI), which will be held in Madrid/Spain from November 1-3, 2005. The new product is a further refinement of Kollidon® VA 64 with a smaller particle size.

"Our goal was to design an excipient that can be used for both direct compression and roller compaction," says Dr. Tim Bölke, Director Strategic Marketing, Pharma Solutions. Kollidon® VA 64 Fine now makes this possible, allowing manufacturers to reduce production process times for solid oral dosage forms. "This optimizes the entire production process and helps our customers to save costs," Bölke explains.

The significantly smaller particle size of Kollidon® VA 64 Fine increases the tensile strength of the tablet cores and makes them less susceptible to breakage and abrasion. Increased stability results in easier tablet handling and improved protection during transport.

BASF Aktiengesellschaft
67056 Ludwigshafen
<http://www.basf.de>
Global Communications Fine Chemicals

In August 2005, the polymer copovidone, on which Kollidon® VA 64 and Kollidon® VA 64 Fine are based, was granted “generally recognized as safe/self-affirmed” (GRAS/SA) status by the U.S. health authorities (FDA). Following this approval, BASF customers are now also able to use these polymers in dietary supplements and other food products intended for the U.S. market.

BASF is the world's leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products, agricultural products and fine chemicals to crude oil and natural gas. As a reliable partner to virtually all industries, BASF's intelligent solutions and high-value products help its customers to be more successful. BASF develops new technologies and uses them to open up additional market opportunities. It combines economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility, thus contributing to a better future. In 2004, BASF had approximately 82,000 employees and posted sales of more than €37 billion. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA), New York (BF) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.basf.com.