

# News Release

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## **BASF first chemical company to be certified on sustainable castor products**

- **Production site in Düsseldorf-Holthausen, Germany, certified according to SuCCESS Code**
- **Supply of sustainable castor products to personal care industry started**

BASF SE is the first chemical company to be certified according to the SuCCESS (Sustainable Castor Caring for Environmental & Social Standards) Code and has successfully finished the certification process by an external body. The production site in Düsseldorf-Holthausen, Germany is also the first site in the personal care industry to be certified. BASF has now started supplying its first sustainable castor ingredients to the personal care industry.

Sustainability in general and sustainable sourcing specifically are gaining increasing importance within large parts of society and among industry stakeholders. For this reason, responsible sourcing is a key element of BASF's sustainability strategy. With the SuCCESS certification of the Düsseldorf-Holthausen site, BASF continues to strive to creating chemistry for a sustainable future. As a global acting company, BASF has a responsibility to manage its supply chain carefully. The company is deeply involved in a range of initiatives not only to increase the share of nature-based ingredients in its portfolio, but also to enhance the sustainability of farming practices and the wellbeing of farmers and workers.

BASF, Arkema, Jayant Agro-Organics Ltd, and the international civil society organization Solidaridad launched project 'Pragati' in May 2016 to improve working

conditions, create awareness for sustainable farming and increase yields thanks to more efficient farming practices. The Pragati project was driven by a baseline survey of more than 1,000 castor farmers in Gujarat, India, where the majority of the world's castor supply originates. The goal is to support the sustainable production of castor beans to establish sustainable supply chains that amongst others increase the yields and income of the farmers. Since the project was initiated, more than 5,800 smallholders and over 13,300 hectares of land have been certified for sustainable castor cultivation.

The Code SuCCESS is designed by multiple partners and stakeholders to ensure the objective of Pragati project and to develop sustainability principles for castor seeds that will guide and further allow castor producers to offer certified sustainable castor in the global market. The SuCCESS Code adopted 11 principles of ownership and provides smallholders with on-field support for ensuring monitoring and compliance with 41 mandatory and 25 non-mandatory control points. Only SuCCESS-certified Sustainable Castor Association (SCA) members can claim to supply sustainable castor products.

Pragati is the Hindi word for progress. Visit [www.castorsuccess.org](http://www.castorsuccess.org) for more details.

#### **About the Care Chemicals division at BASF**

The BASF division Care Chemicals offers a broad range of ingredients for personal care, home care, industrial & institutional cleaning, and technical applications. We are a leading global supplier for the cosmetics industry as well as the detergents and cleaners industry, and support our customers with innovative and sustainable products, solutions and concepts. The division's high-performance product portfolio includes surfactants, emulsifiers, polymers, emollients, chelating agents, cosmetic active ingredients and UV filters. We have production and development sites in all regions and are expanding our presence in emerging markets. Further information is available online at [www.care-chemicals.basf.com](http://www.care-chemicals.basf.com).

#### **About BASF**

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. Around 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 €78.6 billion in 2021. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchange in Frankfurt (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the U.S. Further information at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).