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Press release

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Merck expands Advanced Technologies Centre at Chilworth, United Kingdom

- **Three million euros invested in expanding the chemical research centre in the United Kingdom**

Darmstadt, December 16, 2009 – Merck KGaA has today inaugurated the expansion of its Advanced Technologies Centre at Chilworth near Southampton, United Kingdom. For around ten years, the Chilworth site has served as a chemical research and technology centre focusing on reactive liquid crystals, organic electronics and materials for flexible displays. Around three million euros have been invested in technical facilities for research and product development. At the same time, up to 20 new jobs have been created for highly qualified scientists and technical experts in the fields of chemistry, physics, application technology and analysis.

“By making targeted investments in state-of-the-art application technology, for example for organic electronics and flexible displays, we are striving for a competitive edge,” says Dr. Klaus Bofinger, Head of the Advanced Technologies unit. “Advanced Technologies Chilworth (AT-C) as a central research and development site of the Chemicals business sector plays an important role in also implementing these technologies into tailored, innovative products for our customers worldwide.”

For Merck, as a research-based company, networks between science and industry play an essential role in the development of cutting-edge technologies. Therefore, the researchers at AT-C are collaborating closely with other Merck sites on innovative materials, but also seek to network with research institutes, universities and future customers.

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Merck KGaA

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Press release

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Merck is a global pharmaceutical and chemical company with total revenues of € 7.6 billion in 2008, a history that began in 1668, and a future shaped by approximately 33,000 employees in 60 countries. Merck's success is characterized by innovations from entrepreneurial employees. Merck's operating activities come under the umbrella of Merck KGaA, in which the Merck family holds an approximately 70% interest and free shareholders own the remaining approximately 30%. In 1917 the U.S. subsidiary Merck & Co. was expropriated and has been an independent company ever since.