

News Release



Lhoist Group Chooses BASF as SAP Hosting Partner

The Belgian Lhoist Group, one of the world's largest producer of lime, dolime and mineral products, has selected BASF in Ludwigshafen to host its SAP systems. BASF is to help make hosting Lhoist SAP systems more efficient and more flexible. In the future all Lhoist Group SAP servers worldwide will be supported in the data centers of BASF IT Services GmbH in Ludwigshafen.

The two companies signed a corresponding contract with duration of five years. No further financial details were provided.

BASF offers hosting both with dedicated infrastructure and as an on-demand solution. BASF will provide a robust infrastructure in order to support the central SAP system and other applications at Lhoist.

Philippe Van Pevenaeyge, IT Vice-President of the Lhoist Group, emphasizes: "From our point of view, BASF contributes several strengths, including its comprehensive experience with production processes in the industrial sector, its SAP hosting capacities and its experience in the area of consolidation and standardization. We're looking forward to cost advantages and increased flexibility working together with BASF."

Dr. Ralf Sonnberger, Managing Director of BASF IT Services GmbH, adds: "Because of our large IT network, BASF is well deployed on an international basis and can therefore react quickly to customer requirements. The Lhoist Group has decided in favor of classic hosting. Our flexibility certainly made a difference, together with the fact that, when it comes to IT, we speak the same language."

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About BASF IT Services Holding GmbH:

With the brand "Information Services – connecting to create value" BASF has consolidated its many years of experience in design, setup, integration, optimization and support of IT systems. In Europe these IT services are provided by BASF IT Services Holding GmbH. The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BASF with approximately 2,300 employees and annual turnover of approximately € 481 million Euro (2011). BASF IT Services Holding GmbH is certified under the international quality management standard ISO 9001:2000 as well as under the international standard for information security ISO 27001:2005. Additional information is available in the Internet at www.information-services.basf.com.

About the Lhoist Group:

Lhoist is an international and private owned company, headquartered in Limelette, Belgium, and one of the world's leading producer of lime, dolime and mineral products. These products find use in the iron & steel, chemistry, building & construction including civil engineering, flue gas cleaning, pulp & paper, drinking-, waste water and sludge treatment industries. The Lhoist Group operates 90 locations in 24 countries and has approximately 5,500 employees with 30 nationalities.

About BASF:

BASF is the world's leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products and crop protection products to oil and gas. We combine economic success, social responsibility and environmental protection. Through science and innovation we enable our customers in almost all industries to meet the current and future needs of society. Our products and system solutions contribute to conserving resources, ensuring healthy food and nutrition and helping to improve the quality of life. We have summed up this contribution in our corporate purpose: We create chemistry for a sustainable future. BASF posted sales of about €73.5 billion in 2011 and had more than 111,000 employees as of the end of the year. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.basf.com.