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BASF AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT  
Form 6-K  
April 28, 2005

6-K UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER  
PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 OF  
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

April 28, 2005

BASF AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT  
(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

BASF CORPORATION  
(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

Carl Bosch Strasse 38, LUDWIGSHAFEN, GERMANY 67056  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant files  
or will file annual reports under cover Form  
20-F or Form 40-F

Form 20-F ☒ Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant by furnishing  
the information contained in this Form is also thereby  
furnishing the information to the  
Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No ☒

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the  
Registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82- .

BASF Makes a Strong Start to 2005

LUDWIGSHAFEN, Germany--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 28, 2005--

- Sales grow strongly due to higher volumes and prices
- EBIT before special items up 33 percent
- Cash flow increases further
- Outlook for full year 2005 remains positive

In the first quarter of 2005, BASF's (NYSE:BF) (FWB:BAS) (LSE:BFA)  
performance followed on smoothly from the very good fourth quarter of

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2004. "We are constantly improving our portfolio according to the motto 'Building strengths and eliminating weaknesses.' This creates the conditions that are needed to ensure that we will continue to earn a premium on our cost of capital in the future," said Dr. Juergen Hambrecht, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, when commenting on the company's first-quarter figures at BASF's 53rd Annual Meeting on April 28, 2005. The good first quarter gives Hambrecht grounds for optimism: "Demand for our products remains strong. We are attempting to counter very high raw materials costs, which are continuing to rise in some cases, with further price increases. We are also rigorously implementing our restructuring measures to ensure our long-term competitiveness."

First-quarter sales increased by 11 percent compared with the strong first quarter of 2004 to over EUR 10 billion. Growth was primarily due to price increases. Sales volumes were higher than in the first quarter of 2004, in particular in the Chemicals and Plastics segments. Sales rose by 14 percent if divestitures and currency fluctuations are not taken into account.

Compared with the previous year, income from operations (EBIT) before special items climbed 33 percent to EUR 1.6 billion. In the Chemicals and Plastics segments, where capacity utilization was predominantly high, there was a significant improvement in margins and earnings. The Performance Products segment increased earnings despite the divestiture of the printing systems business. Further reductions in fixed costs contributed to the positive earnings trend throughout the chemical businesses. Earnings in the Agricultural Products & Nutrition segment declined slightly due to unsatisfactory profitability in the Fine Chemicals division. In the Oil & Gas segment, earnings benefited from high oil prices.

First-quarter EBIT after special items rose 39 percent to EUR 1.5 billion. Special items were related to various restructuring measures that are recorded under "Other" until implementation in the course of the year.

The financial result improved in particular due to higher earnings from the stake in the Basell joint venture, which BASF is planning to divest. Income before taxes and minority interests increased by 49 percent to EUR 1.5 billion.

The tax rate was 40 percent compared with 47 percent in the first quarter of 2004. The decline was due to the higher contribution to earnings from the NAFTA region. In addition, a charge for the tax effect of planned dividend distributions from Group companies was included in the first quarter of 2004. Income taxes contain taxes for oil production that are noncompensable with German corporate income tax. These oil production taxes increased from EUR 138 million to EUR 198 million due to higher income from operations from the exploration for and production of oil.

Compared with the first quarter of 2004, net income climbed 66 percent to EUR 861 million. Earnings per share in the first quarter were EUR 1.60 compared with EUR 0.94 in the same period of the previous year.

Outlook for 2005 remains positive

In 2005, Hambrecht continues to expect global chemical production to grow by approximately 3 percent, although the growth is likely to vary widely from region to region.

The company has increased its forecast for the average price of Brent crude oil from \$35 to \$45 per barrel; its forecast for the average euro/dollar exchange rate remains unchanged at \$1.30 per euro.

The strong start in the first quarter gives Hambrecht grounds for optimism. The company expects higher sales and to follow on from the high level of EBIT before special items (IFRS) posted in 2004, if

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possible exceeding it. Uncertain factors continue to be the development of oil prices and the U.S. dollar, as well as the political situation in regional troublespots.

Sales increase in all regions - North America triples EBIT before special items

Companies in Europe increased sales by 8 percent in the first quarter of 2005. EBIT before special items rose by EUR 222 million to EUR 1.1 billion. This was due in particular to higher margins and a further reduction of fixed costs in the Chemicals and Plastics segments.

In Germany, the increase in sales and earnings was due to the improvement in the Oil & Gas segment.

In North America (NAFTA), sales by location of company improved by 24 percent in dollar terms. EBIT before special items tripled from EUR 90 million to EUR 271 million. All segments contributed to this growth. The Chemicals segment performed particularly strongly due to good capacity utilization of the steam cracker in Port Arthur, Texas, combined with favorable margins for cracker products. The Agricultural Products division also posted significantly higher earnings as a result of strong demand for fungicides.

In Asia Pacific, companies increased sales in local currency terms by 19 percent. The sales growth was due in particular to MDI and polyurethanes systems in the Polyurethanes division. The new plant for PolyTHF(R) in Caojing, China, successfully started operations, and this will be followed by the THF plant in the second quarter. At the Verbund site in Nanjing, China, the startup of the world-scale plants is also proceeding according to schedule. EBIT before special items was negatively impacted by startup costs for the two new sites.

In South America, Africa, Middle East, sales by location of company increased by 4 percent in local currency terms. EBIT before special items declined by EUR 7 million to EUR 71 million. In South America, sales and earnings in the Agricultural Products division did not reach the previous year's very strong level because dry weather reduced demand for fungicides. The Plastics and Performance Products segments posted higher sales and earnings.

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 EUR 37 billion. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA), New York (BF), Paris (BA) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).

On April 28, 2005, you can also obtain further information from the Internet at the following addresses:

Interim Report (from 7:30 a.m. CEST)  
[www.basf.de/interimreport](http://www.basf.de/interimreport) (English)  
[www.basf.de/zwischenbericht](http://www.basf.de/zwischenbericht) (German)

Press release (from 7:30 a.m. CEST)  
[www.basf.de/pressrelease](http://www.basf.de/pressrelease) (English)  
[www.basf.de/presseinformation](http://www.basf.de/presseinformation) (German) englisch:

Live-Transmission - Speech Dr. Juergen Hambrecht  
(from 10:00 a.m. CEST)  
[www.basf.de/shareholdermeeting](http://www.basf.de/shareholdermeeting) (English)

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www.basf.de/hauptversammlung (German)

## Forward-looking statements

This release contains forward-looking statements under the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based on current expectations, estimates and projections of BASF management and currently available information. They are not guarantees of future performance, involve certain risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict and are based upon assumptions as to future events that may not prove to be accurate. Many factors could cause the actual results, performance or achievements of BASF to be materially different from those that may be expressed or implied by such statements. Such factors include those discussed in BASF's Form 20-F filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We do not assume any obligation to update the forward-looking statements contained in this release.

## First-Quarter Results 2005

January - March 2005, published on April 28, 2005

## BASF makes a strong start to 2005

### Overview BASF Group

|                                                    | 1st Quarter |        | Change |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------|--------|
| Million EUR                                        | 2005        | 2004   | in %   |
| Sales                                              | 10,083      | 9,051  | 11.4   |
| Income from operations before interest, taxes      |             |        |        |
| amortization and depreciation (EBITDA)             | 2,019       | 1,614  | 25.1   |
| Income from operations (EBIT) before special items | 1,563       | 1,175  | 33.0   |
| Income from operations (EBIT)                      | 1,499       | 1,075  | 39.4   |
| Financial result                                   | 45          | (40)   | .      |
| Income before taxes and minority interests         | 1,544       | 1,035  | 49.2   |
| Net income                                         | 861         | 520    | 65.6   |
| Earnings per share (EUR )                          | 1.60        | 0.94   | 70.2   |
| EBIT before special items in percent of sales      | 15.5        | 13.0   | -      |
| Cash provided by operating activities              | 1,104       | 988    | 11.7   |
| Additions to fixed assets(A)                       | 362         | 518    | (30.1) |
| Amortization and depreciation(A)                   | 520         | 539    | (3.5)  |
| Segment assets (end of period) (B)                 | 27,374      | 27,673 | (1.1)  |
| Personnel costs                                    | 1,277       | 1,297  | (1.5)  |
| Number of employees (end of period)                | 81,335      | 85,617 | (5.0)  |

(A) Tangible and intangible fixed assets (including acquisitions)

(B) Tangible and intangible fixed assets, inventories and business-related receivables

Starting from January 1, 2005, the accounting and reporting of the BASF Group is performed according to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The previous year's figures have been restated in accordance with IFRS (see also the explanations on page 15 ff).

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Effects of the Transition to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

Perfect silicon disks

Modern computers have little room to spare with as many as a billion transistors per square centimeter jostling for position on their processors and memory chips. Imagine the entire population of India holidaying in Washington DC and you'll have some idea of the density. What makes it possible is that transistors are so small. And that, in fact, is the biggest challenge in their production. Circuits this tiny can be paralyzed by a particle smaller than a flu virus. A single misplaced atom may render a chip useless.

Microchip production is complicated

More than 600 working steps are required to turn the raw material, quartz sand, into a modern processor. Most of these steps require the use of special chemicals, for example to clean and etch silicon chips. "BASF is a leading manufacturer of electronic chemicals," says Claus Poppe, Director Global Business Management for Electronic Chemicals. "At least one BASF product was used in the production of any microchip manufactured today." The first step is to get silicon (the building material for most microchips) from simple quartz sand. To clean the "dirty" silicon produced, technicians convert it into a clear liquid that is easily purified by multiple distillations. The much cleaner silicon emerging from this process is ready for the next step, in which specialists use the Czochralski method to grow impressive shiny silver crystals up to two meters tall with a perfect interior structure. Special saws cut these crystals into paper-thin wafers that form the basis of microchip production, but they need to be smoothed down first and polished to a shine. Again, a number of high-purity BASF chemicals such as nitric acid, sulfuric acid and hydrochloric acid are used for the polishing and cleaning process. The finished wafers are round disks measuring up to 30 centimeters across. Their surface has to be absolutely perfect. The tolerance for irregularities is limited to one fifty-thousandth of the diameter of a human hair. When computers were first produced, technicians were able to solder transistors by hand. Today's tiny circuits call for a different technique. The modern technology for etching transistors onto wafers is called photo-lithography. In this process, specialists first apply a barrier layer to the silicon which they illuminate through a mask. The layer dissolves at the sites exposed to light and the underlying silicon layer is etched. Chip manufacturers treat the etched locations with chemicals and repeat the process a number of times, building up transistors layer by layer, like building houses from layers of blocks. But dirt is everywhere. Metal devices invariably give off unwanted atoms. Humans transmit impurities by a mere touch or breath.

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That's not counting the approximately half a billion particles of dust floating around a normal room. For this reason every step of chip manufacture takes place in pristine working areas where all the furnishings are plastic and filters are installed to remove the last particle of dust from the ambient air. Anyone entering these facilities must wear a full set of protective gear including gloves and a face mask. "Finished microchips must be absolutely free of contaminants, so the chemicals that are used in their manufacture have to be extremely pure," explains Dr. Karl-Rudolf Kurtz, head of BASF's Electronic Materials business unit. "BASF currently supplies around 30 chemicals of electronic grade purity." BASF is equipped with cleanroom labs to check the chemicals' purity before they are delivered to chip manufacturers. "We have the technology to detect impurities in trace amounts of less than one microgram per tonne of product."

### The Prospects

BASF is a leading supplier of chemicals to the semiconductor industry. The global electronic chemical business acquired from Merck KGaA at the start of 2005 significantly strengthens BASF's market position. Electronic chemicals distribution is organized in a global business management system for easier ordering and shorter delivery times. BASF was conferred the UK gas supplier BOC Edwards' Supplier Quality Award for the reliability and quality of its electronic gases hydrogen chloride and ammonia. BASF is also the world's only supplier of hydroxylamine free base, a highly active solvent for cleaning microchips.

### BASF Group Business Review and Outlook

- Sales grow strongly due to higher volumes and prices
- EBIT before special items up 33%
- Cash flow increases further
- Outlook for full year 2005 remains positive

### Sales

We increased sales in the first quarter of 2005 by 11% compared with the same period of 2004 to EUR10.1 billion. Growth was primarily due to price increases. Sales volumes were higher than in the strong first quarter of 2004, in particular in the Chemicals and Plastics segments. Sales rose by 14% if divestitures and currency fluctuations are not taken into account.

### Factors influencing sales in comparison with previous year

| 1st Quarter               | % of sales |     |
|---------------------------|------------|-----|
| Volumes                   |            | 1   |
| Prices                    |            | 13  |
| Currencies                |            | (2) |
| Acquisitions/divestitures |            | (1) |
| Total                     |            | 11  |

### Sales by segment, 1st Quarter 2005

| Million EUR |      |       |      |
|-------------|------|-------|------|
| Chemicals   | 2005 | 1,822 | 15%  |
|             | 2004 | 1,582 |      |
| Plastics    | 2005 | 2,800 | 21%  |
|             | 2004 | 2,307 |      |
| Performance | 2005 | 1,908 | (1)% |

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|                      |      |       |      |
|----------------------|------|-------|------|
| Products             | 2004 | 1,929 |      |
| Agricultural         | 2005 | 1,354 | (6)% |
| Products & Nutrition | 2004 | 1,441 |      |
| Oil & Gas            | 2005 | 1,840 | 32%  |
|                      | 2004 | 1,394 |      |

The Chemicals and Plastics segments increased sales as a result of overall strong volumes and higher sales prices.

The Performance Products segment also benefited from increased sales prices, although the loss in sales following the divestiture of the printing systems business could not be compensated for completely. Sales in the Agricultural Products & Nutrition segment declined due to weather conditions and lower sales prices in the Fine Chemicals division. The Oil & Gas segment posted the strongest sales growth in percentage terms as a result of high oil prices.

| Special items                              | 1st Quarter |       | 2nd Quarter |      | 3rd Quarter |       | 4th Quarter |       |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------------|------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| Million EUR                                | 2005        | 2004  | 2005        | 2004 | 2005        | 2004  | 2005        | 2004  |
| Special items in                           |             |       |             |      |             |       |             |       |
| Income from operations                     | (64)        | (100) |             | (16) |             | (96)  |             | 175   |
| Financial result                           | -           | (21)  |             | (1)  |             | (16)  |             | (580) |
| Income before taxes and minority interests | (64)        | (121) |             | (17) |             | (112) |             | (405) |

### Earnings

Compared with the previous year, we increased income from operations (EBIT) before special items by 33% to EUR1,563 million.

In the Chemicals and Plastics segments, where capacity utilization was predominantly high, there was a significant improvement in margins and earnings. The Performance Products segment increased earnings despite the divestiture of the printing systems business. Further reductions in fixed costs contributed to the positive earnings trend throughout the chemical businesses. Earnings in the Agricultural Products & Nutrition segment declined slightly due to unsatisfactory profitability in the Fine Chemicals division. In the Oil & Gas segment, earnings benefited from high oil prices.

First-quarter EBIT after special items climbed 39% to EUR1,499 million. Special items were related to various restructuring measures that are recorded under "Other" until implementation in the course of the year.

The financial result improved in particular due to higher earnings from our stake in the Basell joint venture, which we are planning to divest. We increased income before taxes and minority interests by 49% to EUR1,544 million.

|                                        |      |     |     |
|----------------------------------------|------|-----|-----|
| EBIT before special items, 1st Quarter |      |     |     |
| 2005                                   |      |     |     |
| Million EUR                            |      |     |     |
| Chemicals                              | 2005 | 426 | 70% |
|                                        | 2004 | 251 |     |

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|              |      |     |      |
|--------------|------|-----|------|
| Plastics     | 2005 | 269 | 74%  |
|              | 2004 | 155 |      |
| Performance  | 2005 | 225 | 7%   |
| Products     | 2004 | 210 |      |
| Agricultural | 2005 | 296 | (1)% |
| Products     |      |     |      |
| & Nutrition  | 2004 | 300 |      |
| Oil & Gas    | 2005 | 484 | 41%  |
|              | 2004 | 343 |      |

The tax rate was 40% compared with 47% in the first quarter of 2004. The decline was due to the higher contribution to earnings from the NAFTA region. In addition, a charge for the tax effect of planned dividend distributions from Group companies was included in the first quarter of 2004. Income taxes contain taxes for oil production that are noncompensable with German corporate income tax. These oil production taxes increased from EUR138 million to EUR198 million due to higher income from operations from the exploration and production of oil.

Compared with the first quarter of 2004, net income climbed 66% to EUR861 million. Earnings per share in the first quarter were EUR1.60 compared with EUR0.94 in the same period of the previous year.

### Outlook

We continue to expect global chemical production to grow by approximately 3% in 2005, although the growth is likely to vary widely from region to region.

We have increased our forecast for the average price of Brent crude from \$35 to \$45 per barrel; our forecast for the average euro/dollar exchange rate remains unchanged at \$1.30 per euro.

Demand for our products remains strong. We are attempting to counter very high raw materials costs, which are continuing to rise in some cases, with further price increases in accordance with our "value over volume" concept. The major highlight in the further course of the year will be the startup of our new Verbund site in Nanjing, China. We are rigorously implementing our restructuring measures to ensure our long-term competitiveness. The strong start in the first quarter gives us grounds for optimism. We expect to achieve higher sales and follow on from the high level of EBIT before special items (IFRS) posted in 2004, if possible exceeding it. Uncertain factors continue to be the development of oil prices and the U.S. dollar, as well as the political situation in regional troublespots.

### Significant events

Starting from January 1, 2005, the accounting and reporting of the BASF Group is performed according to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The previous year's figures have been restated; the effects of the changes are explained on page 15 ff.

On April 11, BASF and its partner Gazprom announced a memorandum of understanding to further strengthen their partnership. The two partners will jointly develop the Yushno Russkoje natural gas field in western Siberia and jointly participate in the construction of the planned North European Gas Pipeline (NEGP) across the Baltic Sea. In addition, Gazprom will increase its stake in the WINGAS joint venture

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from currently 35%, and will thus become more heavily involved in the joint marketing of natural gas in Europe.

On April 15, BASF acquired the electronic chemicals business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. The acquisition includes production sites and distribution centers for high-purity chemicals in Asia and Europe. As of this date, these activities will be assigned to the Inorganics division of the Chemicals segment and reported accordingly.

On April 19, BASF announced that it would continue with its share buyback program, and plans to buy back shares for EUR1.5 billion in 2005.

| BASF shares                                                | 1st<br>Quarter<br>2005 | Full year<br>2004 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Share price (end of<br>period) (A) (EUR)                   | 54.69                  | 53.00             |
| High(A) (EUR)                                              | 58.30                  | 53.00             |
| Low(A) (EUR)                                               | 51.34                  | 40.49             |
| Average daily trade<br>(million shares) (A)                | 2.60                   | 2.71              |
| BASF share performance(B)                                  | 3.2%                   | 22.8%             |
| DAX 30 performance(B)                                      | 2.2%                   | 7.3%              |
| EURO STOXX 50 performance(B)                               | 3.8%                   | 9.4%              |
| Market capitalization (end<br>of period)<br>(billion EURO) | 29.3                   | 28.7              |
| Number of shares (end of<br>period)<br>(million shares)    | 535.3                  | 541.2             |

(A) XETRA trading

(B) with dividends reinvested

### Chemicals

- Higher volumes and sales growth
- Earnings rise strongly by 70%
- High capacity utilization and further reduction of fixed costs

| Overview Chemicals                               | 1st Quarter |       | Change in |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|-----------|
| Million EUR                                      | 2005        | 2004  | %         |
| Sales                                            | 1,822       | 1,582 | 15        |
| Thereof Inorganics                               | 207         | 201   | 3         |
| Petrochemicals                                   | 1,136       | 919   | 24        |
| Intermediates                                    | 479         | 462   | 4         |
| EBITDA                                           | 544         | 354   | 54        |
| EBIT before special items                        | 426         | 251   | 70        |
| EBIT before special items in<br>percent of sales | 23.4        | 15.9  | -         |
| EBIT                                             | 426         | 234   | 82        |

All divisions increased sales and earnings. Price increases to pass on higher raw materials costs were the prime reason for the rise in sales to EUR1.8 billion (volumes 5%, portfolio 1%, prices 12%,

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currencies -3%). Earnings increased significantly, in particular due to improved margins, high capacity utilization and a further reduction in fixed costs.

### Inorganics

Strong demand for our inorganic specialties, electronic chemicals and catalysts led to an increase in sales. We also improved earnings due to our measures to reduce fixed costs, for example the use of new production technologies for basic chemicals. By acquiring the electronic chemicals business of Merck KGaA, we are further expanding our activities in this high-growth business area.

### Petrochemicals

Sales climbed significantly thanks to price increases in all product lines, in particular for cracker products. We benefited from strong demand for plasticizers and solvents. As a result of higher margins and very good capacity utilization, earnings increased considerably compared with the same period of 2004. Raw materials costs remain extremely high. In the second quarter, we will start operations at the steam cracker and further world-scale plants at our Verbund site in Nanjing, China.

### Intermediates

The previous year's positive trend with regard to sales volumes and prices continued in Europe and North America (NAFTA). Demand for butanediol and its derivatives was particularly strong. We achieved higher margins and earnings by further increasing prices. We successfully started operations at our new plant for PolyTHF(R) in Caojing, China. PolyTHF(R) is an important precursor for elastic fibers used, for example, in sportswear.

### Plastics

- Strong sales growth primarily due to price increases
- Earnings climb 74%
- Portfolio further optimized

| Overview Plastics                             | 1st Quarter |       | Change |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|--------|
| Million EUR                                   | 2005        | 2004  | in %   |
| Sales                                         | 2,800       | 2,307 | 21     |
| Thereof Styrenics                             | 1,136       | 918   | 24     |
| Performance Polymers                          | 689         | 613   | 12     |
| Polyurethanes                                 | 975         | 776   | 26     |
| EBITDA                                        | 380         | 274   | 39     |
| EBIT before special items                     | 269         | 155   | 74     |
| EBIT before special items in percent of sales | 9.6         | 6.7   | -      |
| EBIT                                          | 268         | 154   | 74     |

Sales again rose significantly due to higher prices and sales volumes (volumes 3%, prices 20%, currencies -2%). Earnings in the Performance Polymers and Polyurethanes divisions increased considerably. In the Styrenics division, earnings were below the level of the first quarter of 2004.

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### Styrenics

Higher sales prices led to an increase in sales, but this did not compensate for the significant increase in the cost of the division's most important raw material, benzene. This margin pressure resulted in a decline in earnings. We intend to improve profitability by increasing prices and by further optimizing the portfolio.

### Performance Polymers

Sales growth resulted from continuous price increases throughout the product portfolio and expansion of the engineering plastics business. Earnings increased significantly. This was due primarily to the realization of synergies from the integration of the engineering plastics businesses acquired in prior years as well as the optimization of production, in particular in Europe and North America (NAFTA).

In the United States, our customer Mann + Hummel Inc. named BASF "Perfect Supplier 2004."

In Asia, we intend to strengthen our engineering plastics business with a new compounding plant in Shanghai, China, and by expanding the compounding plant in Pasir Gudang, Malaysia.

### Polyurethanes

Sales increased considerably in all regions. High prices for important raw materials were passed on to the market in the form of price increases, thus allowing the division to achieve further profitable growth. The expansion of MDI capacity at the site in Antwerp, Belgium, from 360,000 to 450,000 metric tons per year is scheduled for completion in early May 2005.

### Performance Products

- Higher sales from ongoing business
- Profitable growth in Functional Polymers boosts earnings
- Closer cooperation with customers on innovative products

| Overview Performance Products                 |       | 1st Quarter |  | Change |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------|-------------|--|--------|
| Million EUR                                   | 2005  | 2004        |  | in %   |
| Sales                                         | 1,908 | 1,929       |  | (1)    |
| Thereof Performance Chemicals                 | 694   | 796         |  | (13)   |
| Coatings                                      | 472   | 505         |  | (7)    |
| Functional Polymers                           | 742   | 628         |  | 18     |
| EBITDA                                        | 304   | 294         |  | 3      |
| EBIT before special items                     | 225   | 210         |  | 7      |
| EBIT before special items in percent of sales | 11.8  | 10.9        |  | -      |
| EBIT                                          | 224   | 203         |  | 10     |

Sales from ongoing business increased by 5% compared with the previous year due to higher prices (volumes -1%, portfolio -6%, prices 8%, currencies -2%). Earnings also improved.

### Performance Chemicals

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The decline in sales was due to the divestiture of the printing systems business in the fourth quarter of 2004. Sales from ongoing business increased, in particular due to the contribution from performance chemicals for detergents and formulators and for the automotive and oil industry. Earnings were slightly lower due to the divestiture of the printing systems business. On the basis of ongoing business, however, earnings increased, thanks to a reduction in fixed costs.

### Coatings

Sales were below the previous year's level due to a decline in sales of automotive coatings. Together with a further increase in raw materials costs, this resulted in a decline in earnings. The profitability of the industrial coatings business developed positively due to streamlining of the portfolio and optimization of production.

We have further extended our cooperation with key customers. For example, we act as a system supplier to BMW in China. In the important Japanese automobile market, we have further strengthened our position by acquiring our partner's shares in the joint venture BASF NOF Coatings.

### Functional Polymers

We grew profitably and faster than the market due to our innovative product portfolio and close cooperation with our customers. Sales increased significantly, in particular for acrylic monomers, dispersions for architectural coatings, carpet coatings and paper dispersions. Earnings also increased significantly because we passed on higher raw materials costs to the market by increasing our sales prices. We achieved the strongest earnings growth in North America (NAFTA). We have added cyclohexyl methacrylate (CHM) - a special acrylate to improve automotive coatings - to our product portfolio, and have successfully started production at our Ludwigs-hafen site.

### Agricultural Products & Nutrition

- Agricultural Products: profitability further increased
- Fine Chemicals: earnings situation unsatisfactory

| Overview Agricultural Products                | 1st Quarter |      | Change |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------|------|--------|
| Million EUR                                   | 2005        | 2004 | in %   |
| Sales                                         | 959         | 983  | (2)    |
| EBITDA                                        | 332         | 302  | 10     |
| EBIT before special items                     | 276         | 254  | 9      |
| EBIT before special items in percent of sales | 28.8        | 25.8 | -      |
| EBIT                                          | 284         | 234  | 21     |

The slight decline in sales (volumes -3%, prices 2%, currencies -1%) was primarily due to weather conditions which reduced the use of crop protection products in Europe and South America. This was partially offset by significantly higher demand for fungicides in North America, where our customers are preparing to combat Asian soybean rust. A higher value product portfolio and improved cost structures led to a further increase in earnings.

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We are currently working to develop six new crop protection active ingredients, on a new herbicide tolerance project and on products to protect seeds with established active ingredients. These product innovations have a total peak sales potential of EUR700 million and will be ready for market in the coming years. A further seven crop protection active ingredients with peak sales of EUR1 billion are currently being introduced to the market. We have one of the most promising pipelines in the industry.

| Overview Fine Chemicals                       |      | 1st Quarter |  | Change in |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|-------------|--|-----------|
| Million EUR                                   | 2005 | 2004        |  | %         |
| Sales                                         | 395  | 458         |  | (14)      |
| EBITDA                                        | 50   | 79          |  | (37)      |
| EBIT before special items                     | 20   | 46          |  | (57)      |
| EBIT before special items in percent of sales | 5.1  | 10.0        |  | -         |
| EBIT                                          | 20   | 46          |  | (57)      |

The decline in sales (volumes -1%, portfolio -2%, prices -10%, currencies -1%) was primarily due to the severe decline in the price of lysine, the highest volume product in our portfolio. In addition, sales volumes of pharmaceutical active ingredients and premixes were lower than in the first quarter of 2004. Organic acids and aroma chemicals, however, continued to grow strongly. Earnings declined due to the overall negative trend in sales volumes and prices. To some extent, the decline was offset by the reduction of fixed costs. We are addressing the challenging competitive environment through active portfolio management, further cost-reduction measures, a closer focus on innovative products as well as close cooperations with our customers.

### Oil & Gas

- Positive sales and earnings development due to considerably higher oil prices
- New customers in natural gas trading
- Successful cooperation with Gazprom extended further

| Overview Oil & Gas                 |       | 1st Quarter |  | Change in |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------------|--|-----------|
| Million EUR                        | 2005  | 2004        |  | %         |
| Sales                              | 1,840 | 1,394       |  | 32        |
| Thereof Exploration and production | 693   | 527         |  | 31        |
| Natural gas trading                | 1,147 | 867         |  | 32        |
| EBITDA                             | 590   | 429         |  | 38        |
| Thereof Exploration and production | 459   | 304         |  | 51        |
| Natural gas trading                | 131   | 125         |  | 5         |
| EBIT before special items          | 484   | 343         |  | 41        |
| Thereof Exploration and production | 386   | 249         |  | 55        |

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|                                               |      |      |    |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|------|----|
| Natural gas trading                           | 98   | 94   | 4  |
| EBIT before special items in percent of sales | 26.3 | 24.6 | -  |
| Exploration and production                    | 55.7 | 47.2 | -  |
| Natural gas trading                           | 8.5  | 10.8 | -  |
| EBIT                                          | 484  | 343  | 41 |
| Thereof Exploration and production            | 386  | 249  | 55 |
| Natural gas trading                           | 98   | 94   | 4  |

The considerable increase in oil prices in terms of both dollars and euros compared with the same period of 2004 resulted in significantly higher sales (volumes 4%, prices/currencies 28%).

In the exploration and production business sector, production was slightly higher than in the first quarter of 2004 due to increased oil production in Libya and slightly higher gas volumes.

At EUR36.30 per barrel, the average price of Brent crude was 42% higher than in the same period of the previous year, resulting in a significant increase in earnings.

In the natural gas trading business sector, volumes increased further and we acquired new customers. The increase in earnings was due entirely to higher volumes. A gas supply contract was signed with the German energy company Mark-E for a planned combined heat and power plant.

On April 11, 2005, we signed a memorandum of understanding with our partner Gazprom to jointly produce natural gas in western Siberia and market it in Europe.

### Regions

- Sales growth in all regions
- North America: earnings triple
- Asia: startup of plants in Nanjing and Caojing proceeds as scheduled

| Overview       | Sales                 |       |        | Sales                  |       |        | EBIT before special items |      |        |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------|--------|------------------------|-------|--------|---------------------------|------|--------|
| Regions        | (location of company) |       |        | (location of customer) |       |        |                           |      |        |
|                |                       |       | Change |                        |       | Change |                           |      | Change |
| Million EUR    | 2005                  | 2004  | in %   | 2005                   | 2004  | in %   | 2005                      | 2004 | in %   |
| 1st Quarter    |                       |       |        |                        |       |        |                           |      |        |
| Europe         | 6,102                 | 5,634 | 8      | 5,851                  | 5,387 | 9      | 1,134                     | 912  | 24     |
| Thereof        |                       |       |        |                        |       |        |                           |      |        |
| Germany        | 4,310                 | 3,893 | 11     | 2,201                  | 1,949 | 13     | 742                       | 654  | 13     |
| North America  |                       |       |        |                        |       |        |                           |      |        |
| (NAFTA)        | 2,265                 | 1,918 | 18     | 2,243                  | 1,909 | 17     | 271                       | 90   | 201    |
| Asia           |                       |       |        |                        |       |        |                           |      |        |
| Pacific(A)     | 1,299                 | 1,099 | 18     | 1,366                  | 1,192 | 15     | 87                        | 95   | (8)    |
| South America, |                       |       |        |                        |       |        |                           |      |        |

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|          |        |       |    |        |       |    |       |       |     |
|----------|--------|-------|----|--------|-------|----|-------|-------|-----|
| Africa,  |        |       |    |        |       |    |       |       |     |
| Middle   |        |       |    |        |       |    |       |       |     |
| East (A) | 417    | 400   | 4  | 623    | 563   | 11 | 71    | 78    | (9) |
|          | 10,083 | 9,051 | 11 | 10,083 | 9,051 | 11 | 1,563 | 1,175 | 33  |

Effective January 1, 2005, companies in Asia are reported in the region "Asia Pacific." South America, which was previously reported as a separate region, is now reported together with the African and Middle Eastern companies in the region "South America, Africa, Middle East."

Companies in Europe increased sales by 8% in the first quarter of 2005. EBIT before special items rose by EUR222 million to EUR1,134 million. This was due in particular to higher margins and a further reduction of fixed costs in the Chemicals and Plastics segments.

In Germany, the increase in sales and earnings was due to the improvement in the Oil & Gas segment.

In North America (NAFTA), sales by location of company improved by 24% in dollar terms. EBIT before special items tripled from EUR90 million to EUR271 million. All segments contributed to this growth. The Chemicals segment performed particularly strongly due to good capacity utilization of the steam cracker in Port Arthur, Texas, combined with favorable margins for cracker products. The Agricultural Products division also posted significantly higher earnings as a result of strong demand for fungicides.

In Asia Pacific, companies increased sales in local currency terms by 19%. The sales growth was due in particular to MDI and polyurethanes systems in the Polyurethanes division. The new plant for PolyTHF(R) in Caojing, China, successfully started operations, and this will be followed by the THF plant in the second quarter. At our Verbund site in Nanjing, China, the startup of our world-scale plants is also proceeding according to schedule. EBIT before special items was negatively impacted by startup costs for our two new sites.

In South America, Africa, Middle East, sales by location of company increased by 4% in local currency terms. EBIT before special items declined by EUR7 million to EUR71 million. In South America, sales and earnings in the Agricultural Products division did not reach the previous year's very strong level because dry weather reduced demand for fungicides. The Plastics and Performance Products segments posted higher sales and earnings.

### Consolidated Statements of Income

|                                     | 1st Quarter |       |                | Year   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------|----------------|--------|
|                                     | 2005        | 2004  | Change<br>in % | 2004   |
| Million EUR                         |             |       |                |        |
| Sales                               | 10,083      | 9,051 | 11.4           | 37,537 |
| Cost of sales                       | 6,845       | 6,140 | 11.5           | 25,537 |
| Gross profit on sales               | 3,238       | 2,911 | 11.2           | 12,000 |
| Selling expenses                    | 1,004       | 1,111 | (9.6)          | 4,500  |
| General and administrative expenses | 164         | 171   | (4.1)          | 708    |
| Research and development expenses   | 283         | 263   | 7.6            | 1,182  |

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|                                            |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Other operating income                     | 126   | 97    | 29.9  | 951   |
| Other operating expenses                   | 414   | 388   | 6.7   | 1,381 |
| Income from operations                     | 1,499 | 1,075 | 39.4  | 5,180 |
| (Expenses)/income from financial assets    | 71    | 13    | 446.2 | (598) |
| Interest result                            | (40)  | (37)  | (8.1) | (162) |
| Other financial results                    | 14    | (16)  | .     | (117) |
| Financial result                           | 45    | (40)  | .     | (877) |
| Income before taxes and minority interests | 1,544 | 1,035 | 49.2  | 4,303 |
| Income taxes                               | 622   | 483   | 28.8  | 2,206 |
| Net income before minority interests       | 922   | 552   | 67.0  | 2,097 |
| Minority interests                         | 61    | 32    | 90.6  | 131   |
| Net income                                 | 861   | 520   | 65.6  | 1,966 |
| Earnings per share (EUR)                   | 1.60  | 0.94  | 70.2  | 3.58  |
| Number of shares, in million (weighted)    | 537   | 555   | (3.2) | 549   |

The interim financial statements have not been audited. The financial statements were prepared for the first time in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS); the previous year's figure have been restated (see also the explanations on page 15 ff).

### Consolidated Balance Sheets

| Assets<br>Million EUR                                 | March<br>31,<br>2005 | March<br>31,<br>2004 | Change<br>in % | Dec.<br>31,<br>2004 | Change<br>in % |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Long-term assets                                      |                      |                      |                |                     |                |
| Intangible assets                                     | 3,543                | 4,004                | (11.5)         | 3,610               | (1.9)          |
| Property, plant and equipment                         | 13,202               | 13,792               | (4.3)          | 13,007              | 1.5            |
| Investments accounted for using the equity method     | 1,165                | 1,670                | (30.2)         | 1,092               | 6.7            |
| Other financial assets                                | 930                  | 954                  | (2.5)          | 941                 | (1.2)          |
| Deferred taxes                                        | 1,185                | 1,228                | (3.5)          | 1,067               | 11.1           |
| Other long-term assets                                | 660                  | 575                  | 14.8           | 598                 | 10.4           |
|                                                       | 20,685               | 22,223               | (6.9)          | 20,315              | 1.8            |
| Short-term assets                                     |                      |                      |                |                     |                |
| Inventories                                           | 4,964                | 4,470                | 11.1           | 4,645               | 6.9            |
| Accounts receivable, trade                            | 6,589                | 6,268                | 5.1            | 5,861               | 12.4           |
| Other receivables and miscellaneous short-term assets | 2,224                | 2,143                | 3.8            | 2,073               | 7.3            |
| Liquid funds                                          | 3,007                | 909                  | 230.8          | 2,291               | 31.3           |
|                                                       | 16,784               | 13,790               | 21.7           | 14,870              | 12.9           |
| Total assets                                          | 37,469               | 36,013               | 4.0            | 35,185              | 6.5            |

|                                      |              |              |        |             |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| Stockholders' equity and liabilities | March<br>31, | March<br>31, | Change | Dec.<br>31, | Change |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------|

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| Million EUR                                     | 2005   | 2004   | in %   | 2004   | in %  |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Stockholders' equity                            |        |        |        |        |       |
| Subscribed capital                              | 1,371  | 1,417  | (3.2)  | 1,384  | (0.9) |
| Capital surplus                                 | 3,037  | 2,991  | 1.5    | 3,022  | 0.5   |
| Retained earnings                               | 12,749 | 12,059 | 5.7    | 12,154 | 4.9   |
| Other comprehensive income                      | 11     | 113    | (90.3) | (166)  | .     |
| Minority interests                              | 413    | 357    | 15.7   | 347    | 19.0  |
|                                                 | 17,581 | 16,937 | 3.8    | 16,741 | 5.0   |
| Long-term liabilities                           |        |        |        |        |       |
| Provisions for pensions and similar obligations | 3,869  | 3,941  | (1.8)  | 3,866  | 0.1   |
| Other provisions                                | 2,315  | 2,335  | (0.9)  | 2,385  | (2.9) |
| Deferred taxes                                  | 934    | 653    | 43.0   | 817    | 14.3  |
| Financial indebtedness                          | 1,966  | 3,071  | (36.0) | 1,845  | 6.6   |
| Other liabilities                               | 1,064  | 1,069  | (0.5)  | 1,043  | 2.0   |
|                                                 | 10,148 | 11,069 | (8.3)  | 9,956  | 1.9   |
| Short-term liabilities                          |        |        |        |        |       |
| Accounts payable, trade                         | 2,879  | 2,568  | 12.1   | 2,372  | 21.4  |
| Provisions                                      | 2,547  | 2,422  | 5.2    | 2,508  | 1.6   |
| Tax liabilities                                 | 1,110  | 897    | 23.7   | 644    | 72.4  |
| Financial indebtedness                          | 1,455  | 418    | 248.1  | 1,453  | 0.1   |
| Other liabilities                               | 1,749  | 1,702  | 2.8    | 1,511  | 15.8  |
|                                                 | 9,740  | 8,007  | 21.6   | 8,488  | 14.8  |
| Total stockholders' equity and liabilities      | 37,469 | 36,013 | 4.0    | 35,185 | 6.5   |

## Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

| Million EUR                                                         | January - March |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
|                                                                     | 2005            | 2004  |
| Net income                                                          | 861             | 520   |
| Depreciation and amortization of long-term assets                   | 521             | 547   |
| Changes in net working capital                                      | (175)           | (62)  |
| Miscellaneous items                                                 | (103)           | (17)  |
| Cash provided by operating activities                               | 1,104           | 988   |
| Payments related to tangible and intangible fixed assets            | (393)           | (458) |
| Acquisitions/divestitures                                           | 139             | (73)  |
| Financial investments and other items                               | 38              | (71)  |
| Cash used in investing activities                                   | (216)           | (602) |
| Proceeds from capital increases/(decreases)                         | (264)           | (165) |
| Changes in financial indebtedness                                   | 143             | (15)  |
| Dividends                                                           | (19)            | (16)  |
| Cash used in financing activities                                   | (140)           | (196) |
| Net changes in cash and cash equivalents                            | 748             | 190   |
| Cash and cash equivalents as of beginning of year and other changes | 2,094           | 540   |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                           | 2,842           | 730   |
| Marketable securities                                               | 165             | 179   |
| Liquid funds                                                        | 3,007           | 909   |

The previous year's figures were restated due to the transition to IFRS. There were no significant changes.

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As a result of the higher level of net income, cash provided by operating activities increased by 12% in the first quarter to EUR1,104 million. Expansion of our business resulted in an increase in inventories and receivables. Cash used in investing activities led to a cash outflow of EUR216 million compared with EUR602 million in the first quarter of 2004. At EUR393 million, payments related to tangible and intangible fixed assets were below the previous year's level and were significantly lower than the level of amortization and depreciation on fixed assets of EUR521 million. There was a cash inflow due to past acquisition activities; the first quarter of 2004 contained the acquisition of Sunoco's plasticizers business.

In cash used in financing activities, further share buybacks led to a cash outflow. In the first quarter of 2005, 5,1 million shares were bought back for EUR274 million or an average of EUR53.80 per share. In the course of the year, it is planned to buy back shares for a further EUR1.5 billion.

Liquid funds increased by EUR716 million to EUR3,007 million, and at EUR3,421 million financial indebtedness rose by EUR123 million compared with the figure at the end of 2004. Net debt declined to EUR414 million.

### Consolidated Statements of Equity

| January - March 2005<br>Million EUR                                                             | Number of<br>subscribed<br>shares<br>outstanding | Subscribed<br>capital | Capital<br>surplus           | Retained<br>earnings |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| As of January 1, 2005                                                                           | 540,440,410                                      | 1,384                 | 3,022                        | 12,154               |
| Share buyback and<br>cancellation of shares<br>including own shares<br>intended to be cancelled | (5,091,410)                                      | (13)                  | 15                           | (276)                |
| Capital injection by<br>minority interests                                                      | -                                                | -                     | -                            | -                    |
| Dividends paid                                                                                  | -                                                | -                     | -                            | -                    |
| Net income                                                                                      | -                                                | -                     | -                            | 861                  |
| Change in other<br>comprehensive<br>income                                                      | -                                                | -                     | -                            | -                    |
| Change in scope of<br>consolidation<br>and other changes                                        | -                                                | -                     | -                            | 10                   |
| As of March 31, 2005                                                                            | 535,349,000                                      | 1,371                 | 3,037                        | 12,749               |
| January - March 2005<br>Million EUR                                                             | Other<br>comprehensive<br>income (A)             | Minority<br>interests | Stock-<br>holders'<br>equity |                      |
| As of January 1, 2005                                                                           |                                                  | (166)                 | 347                          | 16,741               |
| Share buyback and cancellation of<br>shares including own shares<br>intended to be cancelled    |                                                  | -                     | -                            | (274)                |

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|                                                    |     |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|------|--------|
| Capital injection by minority interests            | -   | 10   | 10     |
| Dividends paid                                     | -   | (19) | (19)   |
| Net income                                         | -   | 61   | 922    |
| Change in other comprehensive income               | 177 | 11   | 188    |
| Change in scope of consolidation and other changes | -   | 3    | 13     |
| As of March 31, 2005                               | 11  | 413  | 17,581 |

| January - March 2004<br>Million EUR                                                             | Number of<br>subscribed<br>shares<br>outstanding | Subscribed<br>capital | Capital<br>surplus | Retained<br>earnings |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| As of January 1, 2004                                                                           | 556,643,410                                      | 1,425                 | 2,983              | 11,673               |
| Share buyback and<br>cancellation of shares<br>including own shares<br>intended to be cancelled | (3,270,000)                                      | (8)                   | 8                  | (136)                |
| Capital injection by<br>minority interests                                                      | -                                                | -                     | -                  | -                    |
| Dividends paid                                                                                  | -                                                | -                     | -                  | -                    |
| Net income                                                                                      | -                                                | -                     | -                  | 520                  |
| Change in other<br>comprehensive<br>income                                                      | -                                                | -                     | -                  | -                    |
| Change in scope of<br>consolidation<br>and other changes                                        | -                                                | -                     | -                  | 2                    |
| As of March 31, 2004                                                                            | 553,373,410                                      | 1,417                 | 2,991              | 12,059               |

| January - March 2004<br>Million EUR                                                          | Other<br>comprehensive<br>income (A) | Minority<br>interests | Stock-<br>holders'<br>equity |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| As of January 1, 2004                                                                        | 28                                   | 403                   | 16,512                       |
| Share buyback and cancellation of<br>shares including own shares<br>intended to be cancelled | -                                    | -                     | (136)                        |
| Capital injection by minority<br>interests                                                   | -                                    | (29)                  | (29)                         |
| Dividends paid                                                                               | -                                    | (16)                  | (16)                         |
| Net income                                                                                   | -                                    | 32                    | 552                          |
| Change in other comprehensive<br>income                                                      | 85                                   | (59)                  | 26                           |
| Change in scope of consolidation<br>and other changes                                        | -                                    | 26                    | 28                           |
| As of March 31, 2004                                                                         | 113                                  | 357                   | 16,937                       |

Contains income-neutral changes in equity (in particular, translation adjustments and fair-value changes of financial instruments)

### Segment Reporting

#### Segments

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| Million EUR          | Sales                                       |       |        | EBITDA                            |        |        |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1st Quarter          | 2005                                        | 2004  | %      | 2005                              | 2004   | %      |
| Chemicals            | 1,822                                       | 1,582 | 15.2   | 544                               | 354    | 53.7   |
| Plastics             | 2,800                                       | 2,307 | 21.4   | 380                               | 274    | 38.7   |
| Performance          |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products             | 1,908                                       | 1,929 | (1.1)  | 304                               | 294    | 3.4    |
| Agricultural         |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products & Nutrition | 1,354                                       | 1,441 | (6.0)  | 382                               | 381    | 0.3    |
| Agricultural         |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products             | 959                                         | 983   | (2.4)  | 332                               | 302    | 9.9    |
| Fine                 |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Chemicals            | 395                                         | 458   | (13.8) | 50                                | 79     | (36.7) |
| Oil & Gas            | 1,840                                       | 1,394 | 32.0   | 590                               | 429    | 37.5   |
| Other (A)            | 359                                         | 398   | (9.8)  | (181)                             | (118)  | (53.4) |
|                      | 10,083                                      | 9,051 | 11.4   | 2,019                             | 1,614  | 25.1   |
|                      | Research and development expenses           |       |        | Assets (B)                        |        |        |
| 1st Quarter          |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Chemicals            | 27                                          | 27    | 0.0    | 5,416                             | 5,165  | 4.9    |
| Plastics             | 34                                          | 31    | 9.7    | 6,530                             | 6,168  | 5.9    |
| Performance          |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products             | 50                                          | 55    | (9.1)  | 4,711                             | 5,073  | (7.1)  |
| Agricultural         |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products & Nutrition | 86                                          | 82    | 4.9    | 6,700                             | 7,479  | (10.4) |
| Agricultural         |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products             | 68                                          | 61    | 11.5   | 5,402                             | 6,076  | (11.1) |
| Fine                 |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Chemicals            | 18                                          | 21    | (14.3) | 1,298                             | 1,403  | (7.5)  |
| Oil & Gas            | 34                                          | 25    | 36.0   | 4,017                             | 3,788  | 6.0    |
| Other (A)            | 52                                          | 43    | 20.9   | 10,095                            | 8,340  | 21.0   |
|                      | 283                                         | 263   | 7.6    | 37,469                            | 36,013 | 4.0    |
| Segments             | Income from operations before special items |       |        | Income from operations (EBIT)     |        |        |
| Million EUR          |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| 1st Quarter          | 2005                                        | 2004  | %      | 2005                              | 2004   | %      |
| Chemicals            | 426                                         | 251   | 69.7   | 426                               | 234    | 82.1   |
| Plastics             | 269                                         | 155   | 73.5   | 268                               | 154    | 74.0   |
| Performance          |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products             | 225                                         | 210   | 7.1    | 224                               | 203    | 10.3   |
| Agricultural         |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products & Nutrition | 296                                         | 300   | (1.3)  | 304                               | 280    | 8.6    |
| Agricultural         |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products             | 276                                         | 254   | 8.7    | 284                               | 234    | 21.4   |
| Fine                 |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Chemicals            | 20                                          | 46    | (56.5) | 20                                | 46     | (56.5) |
| Oil & Gas            | 484                                         | 343   | 41.1   | 484                               | 343    | 41.1   |
| Other (A)            | (137)                                       | (84)  | (63.1) | (207)                             | (139)  | (48.9) |
|                      | 1,563                                       | 1,175 | 33.0   | 1,499                             | 1,075  | 39.4   |
|                      | Additions to fixed assets (C)               |       |        | Amortization and depreciation (C) |        |        |
| 1st Quarter          |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Chemicals            | 88                                          | 175   | (49.7) | 118                               | 120    | (1.7)  |
| Plastics             | 82                                          | 102   | (19.6) | 112                               | 120    | (6.7)  |
| Performance          |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products             | 54                                          | 66    | (18.2) | 80                                | 91     | (12.1) |
| Agricultural         |                                             |       |        |                                   |        |        |
| Products & Nutrition | 31                                          | 55    | (43.6) | 78                                | 101    | (22.8) |

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|                       |     |     |        |     |     |        |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|--------|-----|-----|--------|
| Agricultural Products | 12  | 19  | (36.8) | 48  | 68  | (29.4) |
| Fine Chemicals        | 19  | 36  | (47.2) | 30  | 33  | (9.1)  |
| Oil & Gas             | 94  | 86  | 9.3    | 106 | 86  | 23.3   |
| Other(A)              | 13  | 34  | (61.8) | 26  | 21  | 23.8   |
|                       | 362 | 518 | (30.1) | 520 | 539 | (3.5)  |

(A) "Other" includes the fertilizers business and other businesses as well as expenses, income and assets not allocated to the segments. This item also includes foreign currency results from financial indebtedness that are not allocated to the segments as well as from currency positions that are macro-hedged.

(B) The assets of "Other" includes the assets of the fertilizers business and other businesses as well as assets that are not allocated to the segments (financial assets, liquid funds, financial receivables, deferred taxes; 1st quarter 2005: EUR8,437 million, 1st quarter 2004: EUR6,707 million).

(C) Tangible and intangible fixed assets

Effects of the Transition to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

Starting from January 1, 2005, the accounting and reporting of the BASF Group is performed according to IFRS. The effect of retrospective application of IFRS on income and equity of the BASF Group is shown below. The IFRS figures for the year 2004 have not yet been attested by the external auditor.

| Overview                                                      | 1st Quarter 2004 |             | 2nd Quarter 2004 |             | 3rd Quarter 2004 |             | 4th Quarter 2004 |             | Year 2004 |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| BASF Group                                                    | IFRS             | German GAAP | IFRS             | German GAAP | IFRS             | German GAAP | IFRS             | German GAAP | IFRS      | German GAAP |
| MillionEUR                                                    |                  |             |                  |             |                  |             |                  |             |           |             |
| Income from operations (EBIT)                                 | 1,075            | 1,038       | 1,250            | 1,181       | 1,076            | 958         | 1,779            | 1,679       | 5,180     | 4,856       |
| Financial results (Expenses) /income from financial assets(A) | (40)             | (60)        | 12               | (23)        | (127)            | (93)        | (722)            | (661)       | (877)     | (837)       |
| Interest result                                               | (37)             | (52)        | (38)             | (49)        | (52)             | (68)        | (35)             | (59)        | (162)     | (228)       |
| Other financial results                                       | (16)             | -           | 5                | -           | (73)             | -           | (33)             | -           | (117)     | -           |
| Income before taxes and minority interests                    | 1,035            | 978         | 1,262            | 1,158       | 949              | 865         | 1,057            | 1,018       | 4,303     | 4,019       |
| Income                                                        |                  |             |                  |             |                  |             |                  |             |           |             |

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|            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |       |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| taxes      | 483  | 431  | 514  | 490  | 537  | 482  | 672  | 602  | 2,206 | 2,005 |
| Minority   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |       |
| interests  | 32   | 32   | 34   | 34   | 46   | 46   | 19   | 19   | 131   | 131   |
| Net income | 520  | 515  | 714  | 634  | 366  | 337  | 366  | 397  | 1,966 | 1,883 |
| Earnings   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |       |
| per share  | 0.94 | 0.93 | 1.30 | 1.15 | 0.67 | 0.62 | 0.67 | 0.73 | 3.58  | 3.43  |

Including write-downs and losses on sale of participating interests

| Million EUR                                                                                |      | Jan. 1,<br>2004 | Mar.<br>31,<br>2004 | June<br>30,<br>2004 | Sept.<br>30,<br>2004 | Dec.<br>31,<br>2004 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|                                                                                            | Note |                 |                     |                     |                      |                     |
| Stockholders' equity in<br>accordance with<br>German GAAP                                  |      | 15,879          | 16,289              | 15,991              | 16,097               | 15,765              |
| Capitalization of interest                                                                 | a    | 323             | 326                 | 326                 | 312                  | 314                 |
| Capitalization of software<br>developed for internal use                                   | b    | 114             | 107                 | 101                 | 96                   | 81                  |
| Accounting for pensions (A)                                                                | c    | (156)           | (139)               | (122)               | (107)                | 177                 |
| Accounting for provisions                                                                  | d    | 175             | 170                 | 167                 | 164                  | 163                 |
| Accounting for financial<br>instruments                                                    | e    | (10)            | 4                   | 51                  | (7)                  | 191                 |
| Inventory valuation (A)                                                                    | f    | 102             | 102                 | 102                 | 132                  | 12                  |
| Reversal of goodwill<br>amortization and write-offs<br>due to<br>impairment                | g    | -               | 31                  | 58                  | 86                   | 109                 |
| Other adjustments                                                                          | h    | (14)            | (14)                | (14)                | (14)                 | (13)                |
| Tax effects of planned<br>dividend payments<br>and other tax effects                       | i    | 46              | (5)                 | (5)                 | (28)                 | (58)                |
| Valuation adjustments<br>relating to companies<br>accounted for<br>under the equity method | j    | 53              | 66                  | 79                  | 85                   | -                   |
| Adjustments in accordance<br>with IFRS                                                     |      | 633             | 648                 | 743                 | 719                  | 976                 |
| Stockholders' equity in<br>accordance with IFRS                                            |      | 16,512          | 16,937              | 16,734              | 16,816               | 16,741              |

Including effects of changes in valuation methods in the 2004  
German GAAP annual financial statements

| Million EUR             |      | 1st<br>Quarter<br>2004 | 2nd<br>Quarter<br>2004 | 3rd<br>Quarter<br>2004 | 4th<br>Quarter<br>2004 | Year<br>2004 |
|-------------------------|------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
|                         | Note |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
| EBIT in accordance with |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |

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|                                                                    |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| German GAAP                                                        |   | 1,038 | 1,181 | 958   | 1,679 | 4,856 |
| Capitalization of interest                                         |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    | a | (17)  | (16)  | (18)  | (13)  | (64)  |
| Capitalization of software developed for internal use              |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    | b | (13)  | (10)  | (8)   | (23)  | (54)  |
| Accounting for pensions(A)                                         |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    | c | 27    | 28    | 23    | (10)  | 68    |
| Accounting for provisions                                          |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    | d | (7)   | (2)   | 1     | 21    | 13    |
| Accounting for financial instruments                               |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    | e | (14)  | 14    | 1     | 86    | 87    |
| Inventory valuation(A)                                             |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    | f | -     | -     | 48    | (51)  | (3)   |
| Reversal of goodwill amortization and write-offs due to impairment |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    |   | 41    | 35    | 39    | 36    | 151   |
| Other adjustments                                                  |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    | h | (18)  | (18)  | (5)   | 17    | (24)  |
| Net financing cost of pensions                                     |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    |   | 38    | 38    | 37    | 37    | 150   |
| Adjustments in accordance with IFRS                                |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    |   | 37    | 69    | 118   | 100   | 324   |
| EBIT in accordance with IFRS                                       |   |       |       |       |       |       |
|                                                                    |   | 1,075 | 1,250 | 1,076 | 1,779 | 5,180 |

| Million EUR                                                        |      | 1st<br>Quarter<br>2004 | 2nd<br>Quarter<br>2004 | 3rd<br>Quarter<br>2004 | 4th<br>Quarter<br>2004 | Year<br>2004 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
|                                                                    | Note |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
| Net income in accordance with German GAAP                          |      | 515                    | 634                    | 337                    | 397                    | 1,883        |
| Capitalization of interest                                         |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
|                                                                    | a    | 1                      | -                      | (9)                    | 12                     | 4            |
| Capitalization of software developed for internal use              |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
|                                                                    | b    | (8)                    | (6)                    | (5)                    | (14)                   | (33)         |
| Accounting for pensions(A)                                         |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
|                                                                    | c    | 17                     | 17                     | 15                     | (6)                    | 43           |
| Accounting for provisions                                          |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
|                                                                    | d    | (3)                    | (4)                    | (3)                    | (2)                    | (12)         |
| Accounting for financial instruments                               |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
|                                                                    | e    | 5                      | 32                     | (8)                    | 104                    | 133          |
| Inventory valuation(A)                                             |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
|                                                                    | f    | -                      | -                      | 30                     | (32)                   | (2)          |
| Reversal of goodwill amortization and write-offs due to impairment |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
|                                                                    | g    | 31                     | 27                     | 28                     | 27                     | 113          |
| Other adjustments                                                  |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
|                                                                    | h    | -                      | -                      | (1)                    | 1                      | -            |
| Tax effects of planned dividend payment and other tax effects      |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |
|                                                                    | i    | (51)                   | -                      | (24)                   | (36)                   | (110)        |
| Valuation adjustments                                              |      |                        |                        |                        |                        |              |

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relating to companies  
accounted for  
under the equity method

|                           |   |     |     |     |      |       |
|---------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|
|                           | j | 13  | 13  | 6   | (85) | (53)  |
| Adjustments in accordance |   |     |     |     |      |       |
| with IFRS                 |   | 5   | 80  | 29  | (31) | 83    |
| Net income in accordance  |   |     |     |     |      |       |
| with IFRS                 |   | 520 | 714 | 366 | 366  | 1,966 |

Including effects of changes in valuation methods in the 2004  
German GAAP annual financial statements

Explanations of the transition in accounting and valuation methods to IFRS The accounting and reporting of the BASF Group was done according to German GAAP for the periods up to and including the 2004 annual financial statements. International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) were taken into account to the greatest extent possible. Due to the EU regulation enacted on July 19, 2002, BASF, as a listed company, was required to change its reporting. Effective January 1, 2005, BASF converted its accounting completely to IFRS in compliance with IFRS 1 "First-time Adoption." The previous year's figures were adjusted accordingly. Effects of this transition were netted against equity as of January 1, 2004. Changes compared with the prior accounting methodology are described below:

### (a) Capitalization of construction period interest

For qualifying assets with a lengthy construction period, interest on the project expenditures up to the point it is placed in service can be capitalized. Construction period interest was previously not capitalized, in conformance with German GAAP. According to U.S. GAAP, capitalization of construction period interest is required. In order to avoid a difference between IFRS and U.S. GAAP, construction period interest is capitalized in these financial statements. The amortization of capitalized construction period interest reduced EBIT (first quarter 2004: EUR17 million, full year 2004: EUR64 million), whereas the capitalization of construction period interest increased the financial result (first quarter 2004: EUR17 million, full year 2004: EUR59 million). The assets of the Chemicals and Plastics segments in particular increased as a result of the capitalization.

### (b) Capitalization of internally generated intangible assets

This item contains costs for software that is internally developed and used. These costs are to be capitalized and depreciated as an intangible asset according to IFRS. German GAAP did not allow internally generated intangible fixed assets to be capitalized. IAS 38 "Intangible Assets" covers the capitalization of development costs. Due to the stringent capitalization requirements, there has been no capitalization of development costs to date.

### (c) Pension accounting

The accounting treatment of direct pension obligations was already performed in accordance with IAS 19 "Employee Benefits" in the 2004 annual financial statements. This led to a new valuation whereby deferred actuarial gains and losses due to deviations from actuarial assumptions were netted out against retained earnings. In addition, certain pension obligations were financed via legally independent

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plans, especially BASF Pensionskasse VVaG. Since BASF as the sponsoring entity maintains guarantees, these plans are treated under IFRS as defined benefit plans, and are to be included in the Group financial statements. The inclusion of these pension plans was not possible in the German GAAP financial statements. From now on, they will be accounted for according to IAS 19, retrospective from January 1, 2004. Deferred actuarial gains and losses were not included in accordance with the option under IFRS 1 "First-time Adoption." In addition, the financing cost for pensions and other personnel obligations was netted against the expected returns on plan assets (first quarter 2004: EUR38 million, full year 2004: EUR150 million) and shown in "Other financial results" rather than before EBIT.

### (d) Accounting for provisions

These transition items contain the following differences:

- Under German GAAP, provisions were established for omitted maintenance and repairs, and for mandated modifications in connection with the operation of production facilities. According to IFRS, these items are to be expensed as incurred.
- Provisions for certain environmental measures and recultivation measures have to be capitalized under IFRS in the amount of the expected expense, thereby increasing the acquisition costs of the affected assets. According to German GAAP, costs were accrued over the useful life of the asset, in contrast to IFRS, where such costs are depreciated following capitalization.
- According to German GAAP, provisions were accrued for cyclical overhauls, which were to be carried out at specific intervals. According to IFRS, the expenditures are to be capitalized, and depreciated over the interval between cyclical overhauls.
- Long-term provisions are to be discounted according to IFRS, whereas under German GAAP, they were reported at nominal value.

### (e) Accounting for financial instruments

Accounting under IFRS requires derivatives to be accounted for at fair value and shown as other assets and liabilities on the balance sheet. Provided that the conditions for hedge accounting are not fulfilled, changes in the fair value will affect income, just as with corresponding gains and losses in the underlying instrument. Gains from swaps and forward contracts were accounted for upon maturity under German GAAP. Unrealized losses, however, were immediately recognized in income within other provisions. According to German GAAP, long-term receivables and liabilities in foreign currencies were to be valued at the initial exchange rate, or at the exchange rate on the date of the financial statements; the lower rate in the case of receivables, or higher rate in the case of liabilities. According to IFRS, valuation is always made at the exchange rate on the date of the financial statements. Available-for-sale securities are to be valued at their fair value on the date of the financial statements. Changes in the fair value are shown as a component of equity (Other comprehensive income) up until the point of disposal of the securities. In German GAAP financial statements such securities are valued at acquisition cost, or lower fair value on the date of the financial statements, with valuation changes immediately affecting income.

### (f) Inventory valuation

Since the LIFO method is not allowed under IFRS, inventory valuation method was changed for the 2004 annual financial statements to the average cost method, which is allowed under IFRS.

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According to German GAAP, raw materials and supplies are to be discounted based on lower replacement costs. According to IFRS, valuation adjustments may only be made in the event of a lower net realizable value of the inventories. (g) Elimination of goodwill amortization, and impairment-only approach Goodwill was formerly amortized over its expected useful life, according to German GAAP. According to IFRS 3 "Business Combinations," goodwill is to be examined annually in accordance with IAS 36 "Impairment of Assets" to determine if a write-down is necessary. Due to IFRS 1 "First-time Adoption," in conjunction with IFRS 3 "Business Combinations," annual amortization is no longer permitted effective January 1, 2004. According to impairment tests carried out at the transition date and at year-end 2004, impairment write-downs were not necessary. In particular, earnings in the Agricultural Products division improved as a result of the elimination of goodwill amortization (first quarter of 2004: EUR25 million, full year 2004: EUR96 million).

### (h) Other adjustments

These relate primarily to the treatment of investment subsidies that may not be immediately credited to income according to IFRS, but instead reduce the acquisition costs of the respective assets, as well as to reclassifications in the income statement.

### (i) Tax effects of planned dividend distributions and other tax effects

According to IFRS, in 2004, based on the updated financial plan and taking into account a change in German corporate income tax law (Section 8b KStG), deferred taxes were accrued for the tax effects of planned dividend distributions from Group companies.

### (j) Valuation adjustments for companies accounted for under the equity method

The IFRS valuation adjustments especially concern the capitalization and amortization of internally developed and used software, as well as construction period interest for companies accounted for under the equity method. Due to the valuation adjustments, the book value of these financial assets as of January 1, 2004 was higher under IFRS than under German GAAP. The negative reconciliation item to net income under ifrs was associated with write-downs on these financial assets.

### Changes in presentation

Presentation of the income statement and balance sheet is made in accordance with IAS 1 "Presentation of Financial Statements." Certain individual items were combined for clarity, and detailed separately only in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements:

#### - Balance sheet

IFRS requires a differentiation between long and short-term assets, in contrast to German GAAP, where a breakdown by fixed assets versus current assets was required. The item "Investments accounted for using the equity method" contains, in particular, the stake in the Basell joint venture that is scheduled for divestiture. In equity, the new item "Other Comprehensive Income" is presented to account for changes that do not affect income. The option under IFRS 1 to net the translation adjustment against retained earnings and net profit as of

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January 1, 2004 was exercised. Liabilities are segmented according to maturity under IFRS, whereas under German GAAP it was segmented by provisions and liabilities.

### - Income statement

Financing costs for pensions and other personnel obligations netted against the expected returns from plan assets are presented in an item "Other financial results" according to IFRS, rather than before EBIT. This item also contains the capitalization of construction period interest, the discounting of other provisions as well as changes in fair value of interest derivatives.

### Segment reporting in accordance with IFRS

| EBITDA                             | 1st Quarter |       | 2nd Quarter |       | 3rd Quarter |       | 4th Quarter |       | Year 2004 |       |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|
|                                    | 2004        |       | 2004        |       | 2004        |       | 2004        |       | 2004      |       |
|                                    | German      |       | German      |       | German      |       | German      |       | German    |       |
| Million EUR                        | IFRS        | GAAP  | IFRS        | GAAP  | IFRS        | GAAP  | IFRS        | GAAP  | IFRS      | GAAP  |
| Chemicals                          | 354         | 335   | 459         | 441   | 469         | 419   | 575         | 551   | 1,857     | 1,746 |
| Plastics                           | 274         | 265   | 292         | 280   | 293         | 268   | 334         | 337   | 1,193     | 1,150 |
| Performance Products               | 294         | 279   | 321         | 305   | 307         | 283   | 581         | 575   | 1,503     | 1,442 |
| Agri-cultural Products & Nutrition | 381         | 370   | 375         | 362   | 86          | 65    | 251         | 249   | 1,093     | 1,046 |
| Agri-cultural Products             | 302         | 297   | 306         | 300   | 45          | 33    | 234         | 230   | 887       | 860   |
| Fine Chemicals                     | 79          | 73    | 69          | 62    | 41          | 32    | 17          | 19    | 206       | 186   |
| Oil & Gas                          | 429         | 426   | 443         | 440   | 582         | 578   | 644         | 631   | 2,098     | 2,075 |
| Thereof Exploration and production | 304         | 300   | 351         | 351   | 463         | 459   | 521         | 506   | 1,639     | 1,616 |
| Natural gas trading                | 125         | 126   | 92          | 89    | 119         | 119   | 123         | 125   | 459       | 459   |
| Other                              | (118)       | (95)  | (75)        | (84)  | (58)        | (53)  | 189         | 99    | (62)      | (133) |
|                                    | 1,614       | 1,580 | 1,815       | 1,744 | 1,679       | 1,560 | 2,574       | 2,442 | 7,682     | 7,326 |

Income from operations before special items

|                                    | 1st Quarter |      | 2nd Quarter |      | 3rd Quarter |      | 4th Quarter |      | Year 2004 |       |
|------------------------------------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-----------|-------|
|                                    | 2004        |      | 2004        |      | 2004        |      | 2004        |      | 2004      |       |
|                                    | German      |      | German      |      | German      |      | German      |      | German    |       |
| Million EUR                        | IFRS        | GAAP | IFRS        | GAAP | IFRS        | GAAP | IFRS        | GAAP | IFRS      | GAAP  |
| Chemicals                          | 251         | 245  | 340         | 333  | 367         | 331  | 419         | 425  | 1,377     | 1,334 |
| Plastics                           | 155         | 150  | 180         | 172  | 180         | 158  | 237         | 247  | 752       | 727   |
| Performance Products               | 210         | 196  | 233         | 217  | 216         | 192  | 191         | 185  | 850       | 790   |
| Agri-cultural Products & Nutrition | 300         | 269  | 273         | 241  | 4           | (36) | 186         | 171  | 763       | 645   |

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|                            |     |     |     |     |      |      |     |     |       |       |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-------|-------|
| Agri-cultural Products     | 254 | 227 | 239 | 212 | (11) | (44) | 184 | 161 | 666   | 556   |
| Fine Chemicals             | 46  | 42  | 34  | 29  | 15   | 8    | 2   | 10  | 97    | 89    |
| Oil & Gas                  | 343 | 343 | 339 | 339 | 459  | 458  | 512 | 507 | 1,653 | 1,647 |
| Thereof                    |     |     |     |     |      |      |     |     |       |       |
| Exploration and production | 249 | 247 | 278 | 279 | 371  | 369  | 418 | 410 | 1,316 | 1,305 |

|                     |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Natural gas trading | 94    | 96    | 61    | 60    | 88    | 89    | 94    | 97    | 337   | 342   |
| Other               | (84)  | (65)  | (99)  | (105) | (54)  | (49)  | 59    | (31)  | (178) | (250) |
|                     | 1,175 | 1,138 | 1,266 | 1,197 | 1,172 | 1,054 | 1,604 | 1,504 | 5,217 | 4,893 |

| Income from operations (EBIT)      | 1st Quarter 2004 |      | 2nd Quarter 2004 |      | 3rd Quarter 2004 |      | 4th Quarter 2004 |      | Year 2004 |       |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------|------------------|------|------------------|------|------------------|------|-----------|-------|
|                                    | German           |      | German           |      | German           |      | German           |      | German    |       |
| Million EUR                        | IFRS             | GAAP | IFRS             | GAAP | IFRS             | GAAP | IFRS             | GAAP | IFRS      | GAAP  |
| Chemicals                          | 234              | 228  | 335              | 328  | 338              | 302  | 377              | 383  | 1,284     | 1,241 |
| Plastics                           | 154              | 149  | 171              | 163  | 169              | 147  | 200              | 210  | 694       | 669   |
| Performance Products               | 203              | 189  | 230              | 214  | 214              | 190  | 481              | 475  | 1,128     | 1,068 |
| Agri-cultural Products & Nutrition | 280              | 249  | 268              | 236  | (26)             | (66) | 136              | 121  | 658       | 540   |
| Agri-cultural Products             | 234              | 207  | 235              | 208  | (29)             | (62) | 162              | 139  | 602       | 492   |
| Fine Chemicals                     | 46               | 42   | 33               | 28   | 3                | (4)  | (26)             | (18) | 56        | 48    |
| Oil & Gas                          | 343              | 343  | 346              | 346  | 459              | 458  | 495              | 490  | 1,643     | 1,637 |

|             |       |       |       |       |       |      |       |       |       |       |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Thereof     |       |       |       |       |       |      |       |       |       |       |
| Exploration |       |       |       |       |       |      |       |       |       |       |
| and         |       |       |       |       |       |      |       |       |       |       |
| production  | 249   | 247   | 285   | 286   | 371   | 369  | 401   | 393   | 1,306 | 1,295 |
| Natural     |       |       |       |       |       |      |       |       |       |       |
| gas         |       |       |       |       |       |      |       |       |       |       |
| trading     | 94    | 96    | 61    | 60    | 88    | 89   | 94    | 97    | 337   | 342   |
| Other       | (139) | (120) | (100) | (106) | (78)  | (73) | 90    | —     | (227) | (299) |
|             | 1,075 | 1,038 | 1,250 | 1,181 | 1,076 | 958  | 1,779 | 1,679 | 5,180 | 4,856 |

| Research and<br>development<br>expenses | 1st     |      | 2nd     |      | 3rd     |      | 4th     |      |        |      |
|-----------------------------------------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|--------|------|
|                                         | Quarter |      | Quarter |      | Quarter |      | Quarter |      | Year   |      |
|                                         | 2004    |      | 2004    |      | 2004    |      | 2004    |      | 2004   |      |
|                                         | German  |      | German  |      | German  |      | German  |      | German |      |
| Million EUR                             | IFRS    | GAAP | IFRS    | GAAP | IFRS    | GAAP | IFRS    | GAAP | IFRS   | GAAP |
| Chemicals                               | 27      | 28   | 25      | 27   | 26      | 27   | 20      | 22   | 98     | 104  |
| Plastics                                | 31      | 32   | 33      | 33   | 35      | 36   | 37      | 37   | 136    | 138  |
| Performance<br>Products                 | 55      | 56   | 55      | 56   | 61      | 62   | 46      | 47   | 217    | 221  |

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|                                             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |       |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|
| Agricultural<br>Products &<br>Nutrition     | 82  | 83  | 85  | 86  | 91  | 92  | 104 | 104 | 362   | 365   |
| Agricultural<br>Products                    | 61  | 61  | 63  | 64  | 67  | 67  | 81  | 81  | 272   | 273   |
| Fine<br>Chemicals                           | 21  | 22  | 22  | 22  | 24  | 25  | 23  | 23  | 90    | 92    |
| Oil & Gas                                   | 25  | 25  | 37  | 37  | 49  | 50  | 88  | 86  | 199   | 198   |
| Thereof<br>Exploration<br>and<br>production | 25  | 25  | 37  | 37  | 49  | 50  | 88  | 86  | 199   | 198   |
| Natural<br>gas<br>trading                   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     |
| Other                                       | 43  | 36  | 43  | 36  | 47  | 41  | 37  | 34  | 170   | 147   |
|                                             | 263 | 260 | 278 | 275 | 309 | 308 | 332 | 330 | 1,182 | 1,173 |

| Assets                                      | 1st Quarter<br>2004 |        | 2nd Quarter<br>2004 |        | 3rd Quarter<br>2004 |        | Year 2004 |        |        |      |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|------|
|                                             | German              |        | German              |        | German              |        | German    |        | German |      |
| Million EUR                                 | IFRS                | GAAP   | IFRS                | GAAP   | IFRS                | GAAP   | IFRS      | GAAP   | IFRS   | GAAP |
| Chemicals                                   | 5,165               | 4,911  | 5,373               | 5,124  | 5,374               | 5,105  | 5,219     | 5,008  |        |      |
| Plastics                                    | 6,168               | 5,985  | 6,216               | 6,032  | 6,426               | 6,231  | 6,187     | 6,044  |        |      |
| Performance<br>Products                     | 5,073               | 4,919  | 5,090               | 4,934  | 5,082               | 4,919  | 4,538     | 4,426  |        |      |
| Agricultural<br>Products &<br>Nutrition     | 7,479               | 7,320  | 7,116               | 6,933  | 6,549               | 6,338  | 6,293     | 6,118  |        |      |
| Agri-<br>cultural<br>Products               | 6,076               | 5,969  | 5,693               | 5,563  | 5,211               | 5,053  | 4,985     | 4,849  |        |      |
| Fine<br>Chemicals                           | 1,403               | 1,351  | 1,423               | 1,370  | 1,338               | 1,285  | 1,308     | 1,269  |        |      |
| Oil & Gas                                   | 3,788               | 3,598  | 3,726               | 3,536  | 3,940               | 3,743  | 4,063     | 3,876  |        |      |
| Thereof<br>Exploration<br>and<br>production | 1,830               | 1,761  | 1,857               | 1,787  | 1,897               | 1,818  | 1,943     | 1,829  |        |      |
| Natural<br>gas<br>trading                   | 1,958               | 1,837  | 1,869               | 1,749  | 2,043               | 1,925  | 2,120     | 2,047  |        |      |
| Other                                       | 8,340               | 8,336  | 8,166               | 8,084  | 8,732               | 8,892  | 8,885     | 8,444  |        |      |
|                                             | 36,013              | 35,069 | 35,687              | 34,643 | 36,103              | 35,228 | 35,185    | 33,916 |        |      |

| Additions to fixed<br>assets            | 1st<br>Quarter<br>2004 |      | 2nd<br>Quarter<br>2004 |      | 3rd<br>Quarter<br>2004 |      | 4th<br>Quarter<br>2004 |      | Year 2004 |      |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------|------------------------|------|------------------------|------|------------------------|------|-----------|------|
|                                         | German                 |      | German                 |      | German                 |      | German                 |      | German    |      |
| Million EUR                             | IFRS                   | GAAP | IFRS                   | GAAP | IFRS                   | GAAP | IFRS                   | GAAP | IFRS      | GAAP |
| Chemicals                               | 175                    | 166  | 143                    | 141  | 114                    | 107  | 169                    | 141  | 601       | 555  |
| Plastics                                | 102                    | 98   | 110                    | 105  | 102                    | 100  | 159                    | 151  | 473       | 454  |
| Performance<br>Products                 | 66                     | 63   | 68                     | 66   | 62                     | 58   | 108                    | 99   | 304       | 286  |
| Agricultural<br>Products &<br>Nutrition | 55                     | 53   | 56                     | 49   | 60                     | 54   | 82                     | 76   | 253       | 232  |
| Agricultural                            |                        |      |                        |      |                        |      |                        |      |           |      |

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|                            |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |       |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|
| Products                   | 19  | 18  | 17  | 15  | 22  | 20  | 42  | 42  | 100   | 95    |
| Fine                       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |       |
| Chemicals                  | 36  | 35  | 39  | 34  | 38  | 34  | 40  | 34  | 153   | 137   |
| Oil & Gas                  | 86  | 80  | 58  | 55  | 120 | 109 | 124 | 130 | 388   | 374   |
| Thereof                    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |       |
| Exploration and production | 82  | 77  | 58  | 55  | 105 | 94  | 84  | 91  | 329   | 317   |
| Natural gas trading        | 4   | 3   | -   | -   | 15  | 15  | 40  | 39  | 59    | 57    |
| Other                      | 34  | 33  | 31  | 30  | 33  | 32  | 46  | 44  | 144   | 139   |
|                            | 518 | 493 | 466 | 446 | 491 | 460 | 688 | 641 | 2,163 | 2,040 |

| Amortization and depreciation (A) | 1st Quarter<br>2004<br>German<br>IFRS<br>GAAP | 2nd Quarter<br>2004<br>German<br>IFRS<br>GAAP | 3rd Quarter<br>2004<br>German<br>IFRS<br>GAAP | 4th Quarter<br>2004<br>German<br>IFRS<br>GAAP | Year 2004<br>German<br>IFRS<br>GAAP |                         |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Million EUR                       |                                               |                                               |                                               |                                               |                                     |                         |
| Chemicals                         | 120                                           | 107                                           | 124                                           | 113                                           | 131                                 | 117 198 168 573 505     |
| Plastics                          | 120                                           | 116                                           | 121                                           | 117                                           | 124                                 | 121 134 127 499 481     |
| Performance Products              | 91                                            | 90                                            | 91                                            | 91                                            | 93                                  | 93 100 100 375 374      |
| Agricultural Products & Nutrition | 101                                           | 121                                           | 107                                           | 126                                           | 112                                 | 131 115 128 435 506     |
| Agricultural Products             | 68                                            | 90                                            | 71                                            | 92                                            | 74                                  | 95 72 91 285 368        |
| Fine Chemicals                    | 33                                            | 31                                            | 36                                            | 34                                            | 38                                  | 36 43 37 150 138        |
| Oil & Gas                         | 86                                            | 83                                            | 97                                            | 94                                            | 123                                 | 120 149 141 455 438     |
| Thereof                           |                                               |                                               |                                               |                                               |                                     |                         |
| Exploration and production        | 55                                            | 53                                            | 66                                            | 65                                            | 92                                  | 90 120 113 333 321      |
| Natural gas trading               | 31                                            | 30                                            | 31                                            | 29                                            | 31                                  | 30 29 28 122 117        |
| Other                             | 21                                            | 25                                            | 25                                            | 22                                            | 20                                  | 20 99 99 165 166        |
|                                   | 539                                           | 542                                           | 565                                           | 563                                           | 603                                 | 602 795 763 2,502 2,470 |

### Forward-looking statements

This report contains forward-looking statements under the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based on current expectations, estimates and projections of BASF management and currently available information. They are not guarantees of future performance, involve certain risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict and are based upon assumptions as to future events that may not prove to be accurate. Many factors could cause the actual results, performance or achievements of BASF to be materially different from those that may be expressed or implied by such statements. Such factors include those discussed in BASF's Form 20-F filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. (The Annual Report on Form 20-F is available on the Internet at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).) We do not assume any obligation to update the forward-looking statements contained in this report.

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- Important Dates
  - August 3, 2005  
Interim Report Second Quarter 2005
  - November 2, 2005  
Interim Report Third Quarter 2005
  - February 22, 2006  
Financial Results 2005
  - May 4, 2006  
Annual Meeting, Mannheim  
Interim Report First Quarter 2006
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### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this Current Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

BASF Aktiengesellschaft

Date: April 28, 2005      By: /s/ Elisabeth Schick

-----  
Name: Elisabeth Schick  
Title: Director Site Communications  
Ludwigshafen and Europe

By: /s/ Christian Schubert

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Name: Christian Schubert  
Title: Director Corporate Communications  
BASF Group