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BASF AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT
Form 6-K
November 02, 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

November 2, 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 X 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 X

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

BASF Continues to Grow Profitably

LUDWIGSHAFEN, Germany--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Nov. 2, 2005--BASF

- Higher sales (plus 11 percent) and EBIT before special items (plus 13 percent)
- Earnings impacted by high raw material prices and hurricanes in the United States
- Cost saving goals increased in North America
- Outlook for full year 2005 improved further:
 - Significant increase in sales and EBIT before special items
 - Further increase in premium on cost of capital

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BASF (NYSE:BF) (FWB:BAS) (LSE:BFA) continued on its growth path in the third quarter of 2005. This was confirmed by a further improvement in the figures presented at the company's Fall Press Conference in Ludwigshafen. The strong business performance seen in the first half of the year maintained its momentum in the third quarter. The summer lull was less pronounced than expected. With strong demand on the one hand, and very high and very volatile oil prices on the other, necessary price increases could be passed on to the market only to a limited degree.

Compared with the same quarter of 2004, sales increased by 11 percent to EUR 10.4 billion. Income from operations (EBIT) before special items rose by 13 percent to more than EUR 1.3 billion.

Cumulative sales for the first nine months of the year rose by more than 12 percent to EUR 31 billion. BASF's profitable growth is underlined by the fact that EBIT before special items increased by 26 percent to EUR 4.5 billion.

Optimistic outlook for the full year 2005

Demand for BASF's products remains strong. Further increases in raw materials and energy costs continue to put pressure on margins. For the full year 2005, Dr. Jurgen Hambrecht, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of BASF Aktiengesellschaft, expects significantly higher sales and EBIT before special items compared with the previous year's strong level. "We therefore expect to further increase the premium earned on our cost of capital," he said.

In the fourth quarter of 2005, BASF does not anticipate earnings to reach the strong level posted in 2004. Reasons for this include:

- Expected earnings impairments of EUR 120 million as a result of production losses due to the hurricanes in the United States.
- The lack of gains of EUR 80 million posted in the fourth quarter of 2004 as a result of mark-to-market accounting for derivatives associated with the weak U.S. dollar.

Necessary price increase in all chemical segments

BASF's Chief Financial Officer, Dr. Kurt Bock, took special note of the company's net income of EUR 808 million: "That is more than double the figure of EUR 366 million that we posted in the same quarter of 2004." At EUR 2.5 billion, net income in the first nine months of 2005 exceeded the strong level for full year 2004 by almost half a billion euros.

The sales growth was primarily due to necessary and, in some cases, overdue price increases in all the company's chemical segments. With these price increases, BASF responded to massively higher raw material prices, which resulted in additional costs of more than EUR 1 billion in the first nine months of the year.

After special items of EUR 65 million, third-quarter EBIT rose by 17 percent to EUR 1,262 million. The level of special items was comparable to that in previous quarters. Special items were related to restructuring measures and programs to increase efficiency at a number of sites.

The financial result increased by EUR 303 million to EUR 176 million. About two-thirds of this increase was due to special income from the sale of the stake in Basell, which was completed on August 1, 2005.

The increase in earnings per share to EUR 1.55 from EUR 0.67 was due to the company's continued share buyback program and the associated reduction in the number of shares outstanding.

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In the third quarter of 2005, BASF bought back shares for EUR 250 million. From January through to the end of October 2005 (cutoff: October 27), the company bought back shares for EUR 1,228 million at an average share price of EUR 54.24. As a result, BASF has repurchased 19.3 percent of its shares since starting its share buyback program in 1999.

At EUR 1,285 million, payments related to tangible and intangible fixed assets in the first nine months of 2005 were lower than in the same period of 2004 and, as planned, below the corresponding level of depreciation and amortization.

Link between gas and oil prices reasonable and logical

BASF board member Dr. John Feldmann noted in his remarks that it was both reasonable and logical to link gas prices to the price of oil. "Oil and gas compete with one another in their most common applications. Because oil is a globally traded commodity, its price is therefore the most suitable basis for long-term gas contracts. Such long-term contracts are essential for ensuring supply security for Western Europe." Furthermore, gas markets in which prices were not linked to the price of oil, such as the United Kingdom and the United States, demonstrated much greater volatility and higher average prices, said Feldmann.

At the same time, Feldmann also stressed that BASF provides its customers with very flexible contracts via its WINGAS joint venture with the Russian gas company Gazprom: "We offer different pricing formulas that include prices based on spot markets, for example in Zeebrugge, Belgium, or fixed-price components as well as prices linked to the price of oil. The majority of our customers, however, opt for a link to the price of oil as the key pricing component."

Higher sales in all regions

In the third quarter of 2005, BASF recorded higher sales in all regions. Asia remained dynamic, and the economic environment in North America was robust despite the hurricanes. In parts of Europe, however, economic growth was weak, especially in Germany.

BASF's chairman stressed the company's successful restructuring measures in North America, which, he said, were highlighted by the 25 percent increase in third-quarter EBIT before special items to EUR 110 million. BASF has also identified additional savings potential of \$150 million per year in the region that is to be achieved by mid-2007. This would incur one-time costs of around \$80 million, said Hambrecht.

On top of this, the company has initiated steps to increase its EBIT in North America by \$200 million per year by the end of 2007. It aims to use a Commercial Effectiveness program to increase the efficiency of its marketing activities and reduce the complexity of its business. This will be done by adjusting price structures, logistics, warehousing and business models to reflect altered market conditions.

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) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the

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Internet at www.basf.com.

The following information is also available on the Internet at the addresses shown:

Interim report (from 7:30 a.m. CET)
www.basf.de/interimreport (English)
www.basf.de/zwischenbericht (German)

Press release (from 7:30 a.m. CET)
www.basf.de/pressrelease (English)
www.basf.de/pressemitteilungen (German)

Live transmission of the press conference
(from 10:30 a.m. CET)
www.basf.de/pcon (English)
www.basf.de/pk (German)

Speech Dr. Jurgen Hambrecht/Dr. Kurt Bock/Dr. John Feldmann -
printed version (from 10:30 a.m. CET)
www.basf.de/pressconference (English)
www.basf.de/pressekonferenz (German)

Press photos (from 7:30 a.m. CET)
www.basf.de/photos (English)
www.basf.de/fotos (German)

Information on BASF shares
www.basf.de/share (English)
www.basf.de/aktie (German)

Live transmission of the analysts' conference
(from 3:30 p.m. CET)
www.basf.de/share (English)
www.basf.de/aktie (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.

BASF continues to grow profitably

Third-Quarter Results
July - September 2005, published on November 2, 2005

Overview BASF Group

3rd Quarter

January - September

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Million EUR			Change		Change	
	2005	2004	in %	2005	2004	in %
Sales	10,361	9,314	11.2	31,025	27,679	12.1
Income from operations before interest, taxes amortization and depreciation (EBITDA)	1,843	1,679	9.8	6,011	5,108	17.7
Income from operations (EBIT) before special items	1,327	1,172	13.2	4,547	3,613	25.9
Income from operations (EBIT)	1,262	1,076	17.3	4,348	3,401	27.8
Financial result	176	(127)	.	139	(155)	.
Income before taxes and minority interests	1,438	949	51.5	4,487	3,246	38.2
Net income	808	366	120.8	2,447	1,600	52.9
Earnings per share (EUR)	1.55	0.67	131.3	4.63	2.90	59.7
EBIT before special items in percent of sales	12.8	12.6	-	14.7	13.1	-
Cash provided by operating activities	1,929	1,579	22.2	4,010	3,785	5.9
Additions to fixed assets*	408	491	(16.9)	1,620	1,475	9.8
Excluding acquisitions	408	466	(12.4)	1,252	1,390	(9.9)
Amortization and depreciation*	581	603	(3.6)	1,663	1,707	(2.6)
Segment assets (end of period)**	28,106	27,371	2.7	-	-	-
Personnel costs	1,419	1,388	2.2	4,089	4,048	1.0
Number of employees (end of period)	80,695	84,784	(4.8)	-	-	-

* Tangible and intangible fixed assets (including acquisitions)

** 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.

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BASF shares

3rd	Jan. -
Quarter	Sept.
2005	2005

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Share price (end of period)* (EUR)	62.50	-
High* (EUR)	62.50	62.50
Low* (EUR)	53.80	50.11
Average daily trade (million shares)*	2.76	2.74
BASF share performance**	+13.6%	+21.9%
DAX 30 performance**	+10.0%	+18.5%
EURO STOXX 50 performance**	+8.0%	+18.9%
Market capitalization (end of period) (billion EUR)	33.2	-
Number of shares (end of period) (million shares)***	531.7	-

News from our innovation centers
Functional coatings for modern pharmaceuticals

BASF supports pharmaceutical manufacturers worldwide with a full range of excipients

The coating of tablets can fulfill a variety of purposes, such as masking a bitter taste, delaying active ingredient release, enhancing consumption or modifying color. Besides sugar solutions or cellulose derivatives, innovative polymers are mainly used to coat tablets - such as those from BASF's Kollicoat(R) family. Apart from offering the possibility of creating special functions through modifications, these molecule chains have one decisive advantage: The coating with Kollicoat in modern drum coaters now requires just a few hours.

The latest member of the product family is Kollicoat IR, an instant-release film coating based on a new polymer developed by BASF. In August 2005, Kollicoat IR was approved by the German authorities. Thanks to its excellent properties, the innovative tablet coating helps our customers to save up to 30 percent on their production costs.

"BASF offers pharmaceutical manufacturers a full range of excipients to help turn promising active agents into successful medications," explains Dr. Jan-Peter Mittwollen of Strategic Marketing for Pharmaceutical excipients at BASF. Even a simple headache tablet can contain several BASF products. There are four types of excipients that can be distinguished:

- Binders (e.g., Kollidon(R) 30) help in the manufacturing of tablets, so that for example a tablet can still be made out of active ingredients that are difficult to compress.
- Disintegrants (e.g., Kollidon CL) ensure through high swelling that the tablet disintegrates quickly, allowing the active ingredient to be rapidly released.
- Coatings (e.g., Kollicoat IR) protect the tablets and make them easier to swallow. In addition, the film coatings control the release of the active ingredient from the tablet.
- Solubilizers (e.g., Solutol(R) HS 15) make it possible for a human body to accept an active ingredient that is not easily soluble in water.

Each active ingredient places different demands on pharmaceutical technology: Acid-sensitive drugs, for example, have to be protected against aggressive gastric juices. Other active ingredients, such as antihypertensive drugs, need to be released smoothly and continuously over 24 hours. Research and innovation are not only part of the development of a new active ingredient. On average, about 15% of the

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price of a pharmaceutical product account for the techniques that deliver the active ingredients to their targets in the body.

News from our innovation centers
Harnessing nature to make plants healthier

F 500 sets new standards and brings researchers nomination for prestigious German Future Prize

Farmers around the world now rely on products based on BASF's innovative fungicide F 500(R) to protect their crops from pathogenic fungi. F 500 combats fungal diseases such as Asian soybean rust, scabby in apple trees or mildew in wine. What's special about F 500 is that it also makes crops healthier and more vital due to its positive metabolic impact. This increases yield and quality. "If we succeed in making plants healthier, this will be a great step forward for agriculture," says Hans W. Reiners, president of BASF's Agricultural Products division.

The nomination of two BASF scientists, Dr. Hubert Sauter and Klaus Schelberger, as one of the four scientific teams for the "German Future Prize 2005 - Federal President's Award for Technology and Innovation" is a public acknowledgement of the development of the crop protection active ingredient F 500. A large number of dedicated employees helped to make F 500 reality. Projects singled out for the coveted prize are not only of outstanding scientific value, but also ripe for successful application. This year, the prize will be awarded on November 11 in Berlin.

The first strobilurin fungicide was launched in 1996. In 2002, BASF set a new standard in this exciting class of chemistry with F 500. Sales of products containing this active ingredient have risen steadily since then. The most recent successes were achieved in the fight against Asian rust in Brazil.

F 500 is the result of BASF's systematic research and development work. The strobilurins derive from a chemical compound produced by a small forest mushroom, the pinecone cap (*Strobiluris tenacellus*), to prevent other types of mushrooms from moving in and stealing its food. This natural fungicide, strobilurin A, could not be used in agriculture because it was too sensitive to light and air. Therefore, chemists started looking for ways to change its structure without reducing the biological activity. This is how the new chemical class of strobilurins was developed, a substance with an unparalleled spectrum of activity against pathogenic fungi and a very positive environmental profile.

BASF Group Business Review and Outlook

- Profitable growth
 - Sales: +11 %
 - EBIT before special items: +13%
- Growth impetus from new Verbund site in Nanjing, China
- Earnings impacted by high raw material prices and hurricanes in the United States
- Outlook for full year 2005 improved further:
 - Sales and EBIT before special items significantly higher than in 2004

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-- Further increase in premium on cost of capital

Sales

Compared with the same period of 2004, we increased sales in the third quarter of 2005 by 11 % to EUR 10.4 billion. This was due to higher sales prices in our chemical businesses, higher oil prices and increased sales volumes.

Factors influencing sales in comparison with previous year

% of sales	3rd Quarter	Jan. - Sept.
Volumes	4	2
Prices	6	11
Currencies	2	(1)
Acquisitions/divestitures	(1)	.
Total	11	12

The strong sales growth in the Chemicals segment resulted from higher sales volumes of petrochemicals and inorganics. The new Verbund site in Nanjing, China, provided significant growth impetus for the first time.

In the Plastics segment, we achieved double-digit sales growth in the Performance Polymers and Polyure-thanes divisions.

Sales by segment, 3rd quarter 2005

Million EUR			
Chemicals	2005	2,063	14%
	2004	1,811	
Plastics	2005	2,957	5%
	2004	2,827	
Performance Products	2005	2,106	2%
	2004	2,068	
Agricultural Products & Nutrition	2005	1,008	(3)%
	2004	1,035	
Oil & Gas	2005	1,630	40%
	2004	1,163	

Despite the divestiture of the printing systems business in November 2004, sales also rose in the Performance Products segment due to further price increases.

Volumes declined slightly in the Agricultural Products segment. The Fine Chemicals division continued to suffer from low prices for lysine and vitamin C.

Sales in the Oil & Gas segment improved due to higher oil prices as well as higher sales volumes of oil and gas.

Special items

Million EUR	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter	
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004
Special items in								
Income from operations	(64)	(100)	(70)	(16)	(65)	(96)		175
Financial result	-	(21)	-	(1)	222	(16)		(580)
Income before taxes and minority interests	(64)	(121)	(70)	(17)	157	(112)		(405)

Earnings

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Compared with the same quarter of 2004, we increased income from operations (EBIT) before special items by 13% to EUR 1,327 million.

In the Chemicals segment, earnings were below the strong level posted in the third quarter of 2004. Significantly higher raw material prices, in particular for petrochemicals, could not immediately be passed on to the market.

The significant improvement in earnings in the Plastics segment was due primarily to a considerable increase in margins in the polyurethanes division during the course of the year.

In the Performance Products segment, earnings were at the same level as in the third quarter of 2004 despite the divestiture of the printing systems business. This was due mainly to the Functional Polymers division.

The Agricultural Products business posted a loss due to the seasonal nature of its business. Margins in the Fine Chemicals division remained under pressure and performance is still unsatisfactory.

In the Oil & Gas segment, the business sector exploration and production posted significantly higher earnings. Earnings in the natural gas trading sector were negatively impacted by lower margins.

In the third quarter, EBIT after special items rose by 17% to EUR 1,262 million.

Special items were related to restructuring measures and programs to increase efficiency at a number of sites.

The financial result contains special income from the sale of our stake in Basell, which was completed on August 1, 2005.

EBIT before special items, 3rd quarter 2005

Million EUR

Chemicals	2005	268	(27)%
	2004	367	
Plastics	2005	267	48%
	2004	180	
Performance	2005	216	-
Products	2004	216	
	2005	(23)	.
Agricultural Products & Nutrition	2004	4	
Oil & Gas	2005	594	29%
	2004	459	

Income before taxes and minority interests climbed 52% to EUR 1,438 million.

The tax rate declined to 43% from 57% in the third quarter of 2004, mainly as a result of the tax-free gain from the sale of the stake in Basell. Taxes for oil production that are noncompensable with German corporate income tax amounted to EUR 317 million in the third quarter of 2005 compared with EUR 197 million in the same period of 2004.

Net income more than doubled to EUR 808 million. Earnings per share were EUR 1.55 compared with EUR 0.67 in the same period of the previous year.

Outlook

We continue to expect global chemical production to grow by approximately 3% in 2005. Growth is likely to be driven primarily by Asia, but also by North America.

For 2005, we are forecasting an average dollar exchange rate of \$1.25 per euro. We have adjusted our forecast for the average price of Brent crude in 2005 from \$50 to \$55 per barrel.

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Demand for our products remains strong. Further increases in raw material and energy costs continue to put pressure on our margins.

For the full year 2005, we are expecting significantly higher sales and EBIT before special items compared with the previous year's strong level (IFRS). We therefore expect to further increase the premium earned on our cost of capital.

In the fourth quarter of 2005, we do not expect earnings to reach the strong level posted in 2004. Reasons for this include:

- Expected earnings impairments of EUR 120 million as a result of production losses due to the hurricanes in the United States.
- The lack of gains of EUR 80 million posted in the fourth quarter of 2004 as a result of mark-to-market accounting for derivatives associated with the weak U.S. dollar.

Significant events

On September 28, BASF and SINOPEC officially inaugurated their Verbund site in Nanjing, China. BASF and SINOPEC now plan to invest in additional downstream plants and in expanding the capacity of the steam cracker at the new Nanjing site.

On September 8, BASF, Gazprom and Eon signed a basic agreement on the construction of the North European Gas Pipeline (NEGP) through the Baltic Sea. On October 14, BASF agreed with Gazexport to procure nine billion cubic meters of Russian natural gas per year for 25 years through the NEGP for Western European consumers starting in 2010 - this corresponds to more than 200 billion cubic meters of natural gas in total.

On October 17, BASF announced that it will transfer about EUR 3.7 billion into a newly established CTA (Contractual Trust Arrangement) by the end of 2005 to finance pension obligations. The benefit levels for employees and pensioners of BASF Aktiengesellschaft remain unchanged. As a result of this measure, BASF is improving the international comparability of its financial reporting. BASF's financial and strategic flexibility will not be affected.

Chemicals

- Further significant increase in sales
- Earnings impaired due to decline in cracker margins
- Boost to sales from new plants in Nanjing, China

Overview Chemicals

	3rd Quarter			January - September		
	2005	2004	Change in %	2005	2004	Change in %
Million EUR						
Sales	2,063	1,811	14	5,892	5,141	15
Thereof Inorganics	270	214	26	745	626	19
Petrochemicals	1,309	1,097	19	3,672	3,063	20
Intermediates	484	500	(3)	1,475	1,452	2
EBITDA	408	469	(13)	1,429	1,282	11
EBIT before special items	268	367	(27)	1,109	958	16
EBIT before special items in percent of sales	13.0	20.3	-	18.8	18.6	-
EBIT	259	338	(23)	1,030	907	14

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At over EUR 2 billion, sales reached a record high (volumes 9%, portfolio 3%, prices 2%). This was due primarily to higher sales volumes of petrochemicals and the expansion of our portfolio of inorganics. It was not possible to match the very strong level of earnings posted in the same period of 2004 due to higher raw material prices and plant shutdowns as a result of the hurricanes in the United States.

Inorganics

The significant increase in sales was achieved thanks to the acquisition of the electronic chemicals business in April 2005 as well as higher sales volumes. Earnings were at the previous year's level. Higher purchasing costs for natural gas had a negative impact on the glues and impregnating resins business. Margins for basic inorganic chemicals improved, however.

Petrochemicals

Sales were boosted by strong global demand for petrochemicals together with additional sales volumes from the new plants started up in Nanjing, China. In the course of the quarter, cracker margins declined to an unsatisfactory level due to significantly lower olefin prices, in particular in Europe, and a simultaneous increase in the cost of naphtha. In North America (NAFTA), earnings were negatively impacted by plant shutdowns made necessary by the hurricanes in the United States. Margins for plasticizers and solvents were maintained, and earnings for alkylene oxides and glycols improved. Our new world-scale plants in Nanjing, China, are operating at a high capacity utilization rate. We are planning to expand the capacity of the steam cracker at our Verbund site in Antwerp, Belgium, to more than 1 million metric tons of ethylene per year.

Intermediates

The rigorous implementation of our "value over volume" strategy enabled us to raise prices. Sales volumes were to some extent impaired by the textiles dispute between China, the United States and the European Union. Overall, sales declined slightly. Lower capacity utilization and higher raw material costs led to a decline in earnings.

Plastics

- Sales growth due to higher prices and increased sales volumes
- Improved earnings in Polyurethanes and Performance Polymers
- Globalexpansion of innovative and cost-effective HPPO technology

Overview Plastics

	3rd Quarter			January - September		
	2005	2004	Change in %	2005	2004	Change in %
Million EUR						
Sales	2,957	2,827	5	8,681	7,656	13
Thereof Styrenics	1,135	1,276	(11)	3,399	3,213	6
Performance Polymers	743	644	15	2,164	1,906	14
Polyurethanes	1,079	907	19	3,118	2,537	23
EBITDA	382	293	30	1,162	859	35
EBIT before special items	267	180	48	810	515	57

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EBIT before special items in percent of sales	9.0	6.4	-	9.3	6.7	-
EBIT	260	169	54	808	494	64

The sales growth (volumes 2%, portfolio -1 %, prices 2%, currencies 2%) was primarily the result of higher sales prices in the Polyurethanes division as well as higher sales volumes in the Performance Polymers division. The significant rise in earnings was mainly due to the improvement in the polyurethanes business and simultaneous cost reductions. The Performance Polymers division also posted higher earnings. Margins for styrenics, however, remained under pressure.

Styrenics

The decline in sales compared with the strong third quarter of 2004 was due to lower sales prices and sales volumes. This was essentially the result of weaker global demand and the divestiture of the polystyrene business in the United States. High and volatile raw material prices continued to impact earnings.

Performance Polymers

Price increases to pass on higher raw material costs and higher sales volumes of polyamide in all regions led to an increase in sales.

In Asia, we further expanded our engineering plastics business and increased compounding capacities at our site in Pasir Gudang, Malaysia. The growth in earnings was due mainly to higher volumes, since margins remained generally stable. In August this year, we acquired Leuna-Miramid GmbH to further extend our leading position in engineering plastics in Europe. Closing for this deal is expected in November 2005.

Polyurethanes

We increased sales in all regions thanks to significant price increases and slightly higher sales volumes. The TDI business acquired from Huntsman in July 2005 also contributed to the sales growth. Earnings rose significantly.

In early 2006, BASF and Dow plan to start work on the construction of a propylene oxide plant at BASF's Verbund site in Antwerp, Belgium. The new plant will employ the cost-effective, innovative HPPO technology. New plants are also planned in the United States and in Asia.

Performance Products

- Sales increase further despite divestiture
- Earnings in Functional Polymers remain strong
- High capacity utilization at new plants in Nanjing, China

Overview Performance Products

	3rd Quarter			January - September		
	2005	2004	Change in %	2005	2004	Change in %
Million EUR						
Sales	2,106	2,068	2	6,112	6,026	1
Thereof Performance Chemicals	722	830	(13)	2,150	2,451	(12)
Coatings	561	516	9	1,588	1,541	3
Functional Polymers	823	722	14	2,374	2,034	17
EBITDA	299	307	(3)	969	922	5

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EBIT before special items	216	216	-	713	659	8
EBIT before special items in percent of sales	10.3	10.4	-	11.7	10.9	-
EBIT	209	214	(2)	715	647	11

Thanks to further price increases, sales rose despite the divestiture of the printing systems business in November 2004 (volumes -1 %, portfolio -5%, prices 6%, currencies 2%). Earnings remained at the previous year's level. The Functional Polymers division continued on its profitable growth path in the third quarter of 2005 and made a significant contribution to the segment's strong profitability.

Performance Chemicals

Sales from ongoing business were increased in all regions due to higher sales prices, although higher volumes were posted only for performance chemicals for the automotive and oil industry. The positive earnings trend for performance chemicals for detergents and formulators and for the automotive and oil industry was unable to offset fully the decline in earnings for performance chemicals for coatings, plastics and specialties, and for leather.

Coatings

Sales rose due to strong sales volumes of automotive (OEM) coatings in Europe and North America (NAFTA) and thanks to brisk business with automotive refinish coatings in North America. Earnings declined because of further increases in raw material costs, which could not be passed on quickly, in particular in the automotive coatings business. To strengthen our portfolio of industrial coatings, we agreed to acquire the coil coatings business of Rhenania Coatings GmbH in October 2005. The deal is expected to close by the end of this year.

Functional Polymers

We increased sales further in all regions, in particular due to the contribution from acrylic monomers, adhesive raw materials and dispersions for decorative paints. Sales grew faster than the market thanks to price increases. Compared with the same period of 2004, earnings rose significantly as a result of better margins and high capacity utilization. The integrated plant complex to produce acrylic acid at the site in Nanjing, China, has been producing at a very high capacity utilization rate since it went on stream.

Agricultural Products & Nutrition

-- Agricultural Products: Sales and earnings down slightly on 2004

-- Fine Chemicals: Earnings affected by lysine

Overview Agricultural Products

	3rd Quarter			January - September		
	2005	2004	Change in %	2005	2004	Change in %
Million EUR						
Sales	576	591	(3)	2,578	2,645	(3)
EBITDA	43	45	(4)	726	653	11
EBIT before special items	(24)	(11)	(118)	547	482	13
EBIT before special items in percent of sales	(4.2)	(1.9)	-	21.2	18.2	-
EBIT	(12)	(29)	59	563	440	28

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Third-quarter sales (volumes-2%, prices/currencies -1 %) and earnings were lower than in the same period of 2004. In North America, soybean rust has spread to a lesser extent than was initially expected. Sales volumes declined slightly. We systematically increased spending on research and development.

We further optimized our portfolio by selling our non-European business with the herbicide imazamethabenz to the Australian company Nufarm in September 2005. This resulted in special income. In South America, the business made a good start to the new season in the second half of the quarter.

Overview Fine Chemicals

Million EUR	3rd Quarter			January - September		
	2005	2004	Change in %	2005	2004	Change in %
Sales	432	444	(3)	1,249	1,358	(8)
EBITDA	34	41	(17)	96	189	(49)
EBIT before special items	1	15	(93)	28	95	(71)
EBIT before special items in percent of sales	0.2	3.4	-	2.2	7.0	-
EBIT	1	3	(67)	2	82	(98)

Sales volumes increased for numerous products, including fat-soluble vitamins, organic acids and aroma chemicals. The Fine Chemicals division nevertheless continued to suffer from low market prices for the important products lysine and vitamin C. This had a negative impact on sales (volumes 5%, portfolio -2%, prices -7%, currencies 1%) and earnings.

Earnings were also affected by a further increase in raw material costs.

The acquisition of the Swiss fine chemical company Orgamol successfully closed on October 1, 2005. This transaction will strengthen our pharma contract manufacturing business.

Oil & Gas

-- Exploration and production: Higher oil price and increased production

-- Natural gas trading: Strong sales growth, but margins impacted by higher import prices

Overview Oil & Gas

Million EUR	3rd Quarter			January - September		
	2005	2004	Change in %	2005	2004	Change in %
Sales	1,630	1,163	40	5,120	3,647	40
Thereof Exploration and production	904	643	41	2,459	1,754	40
Natural gas trading	726	520	40	2,661	1,893	41
EBITDA	697	582	20	1,973	1,454	36
Thereof Exploration and production	644	463	39	1,712	1,118	53
Natural gas trading	53	119	(55)	261	336	(22)
EBIT before special items	594	459	29	1,657	1,141	45
Thereof Exploration and production	572	371	54	1,491	898	66
Natural gas trading	22	88	(75)	166	243	(32)
EBIT before special items in percent of sales	36.4	39.5	-	32.4	31.3	-
Thereof Exploration and production	63.3	57.7	-	60.6	51.2	-

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Natural gas trading	3.0	16.9	-	6.2	12.8	-
EBIT	594	459	29	1,657	1,148	44
Thereof Exploration and production	572	371	54	1,491	905	65
Natural gas trading	22	88	(75)	166	243	(32)

In the third quarter, a record average price for Brent crude of \$61.63 per barrel and higher production volumes caused sales to rise significantly (volumes 4%, prices/currencies 36%), as did an expansion in natural gas trading. Earnings before oil production taxes included in tax expense increased by EUR 135 million.

In the exploration and production business sector, the significant increase in sales and earnings was primarily due to the significant increase in crude oil prices. The average price of Brent crude was approximately \$20 (EUR 17) higher per barrel compared with the same period of 2004. Furthermore, production of oil, condensate and natural gas was raised.

The pipeline through the North Sea linking the Mittelplate drilling and production island to the Dieksand land station in Germany started operations as scheduled in September 2005.

We succeeded in increasing sales volumes and sales in the natural gas trading business sector. However, margins and earnings were significantly lower compared with the same period of 2004 because the terms of sales contracts did not allow sales prices to be adjusted immediately to reflect constantly increasing import prices for natural gas. In 2004, third-quarter earnings also contained a one-time payment from an arbitration settlement.

In September, we signed a basic agreement with our Russian partner Gazprom and Eon on the construction of the North European Gas Pipeline (NEGP) through the Baltic Sea. Furthermore, in October BASF agreed with Gazexport to procure a total of 200 billion cubic meters of natural gas through the NEGP over a period of 25 years starting in 2010.

Regions

- Sales growth in all regions
- North America: Additional measures to improve earnings
- Asia: New Verbund site in Nanjing, China, exceeds ambitious goals

Overview Regions	Sales (location of company)			Sales (location of customer)		
	2005	2004	Change in %	2005	2004	Change in %
Million EUR						
3rd Quarter						
Europe	5,802	5,370	8	5,436	5,058	7
Thereof Germany	3,927	3,610	9	2,097	1,728	21
North America (NAFTA)	2,291	2,042	12	2,266	2,058	10
Asia Pacific	1,645	1,323	24	1,820	1,413	29
South America, Africa, Middle East	623	579	8	839	785	7
	10,361	9,314	11	10,361	9,314	11
January - September						
Europe	18,082	16,563	9	17,116	15,625	10
Thereof Germany	12,378	11,141	11	6,351	5,515	15
North America (NAFTA)	7,141	6,164	16	7,097	6,207	14
Asia Pacific	4,395	3,590	22	4,746	3,907	21
South America, Africa, Middle East	1,407	1,362	3	2,066	1,940	6

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31,025 27,679 12 31,025 27,679 12

Overview Regions	EBIT before special items		
Million EUR	2005	2004	Change in %
3rd Quarter			
Europe	1,015	889	14
Thereof Germany	703	623	13
North America (NAFTA)	110	88	25
Asia Pacific	113	106	7
South America, Africa, Middle East	89	89	-
	1,327	1,172	13
January - September			
Europe	3,348	2,739	22
Thereof Germany	2,217	1,928	15
North America (NAFTA)	732	391	87
Asia Pacific	295	272	8
South America, Africa, Middle East	172	211	(18)
	4,547	3,613	26

Third-quarter sales by location of company in Europe increased by 8%. EBIT before special items rose by EUR 126 million to EUR 1,015 million. The Oil & Gas segment was mainly responsible for the sales and earnings growth.

In North America, sales by location of company improved by 12% in dollar terms, and EBIT before special items improved by EUR 22 million to EUR 110 million. Production losses due to the hurricanes negatively impacted sales and earnings. In addition to the cost savings of \$250 million we have already achieved, we are now working to save a further \$150 million in the region by mid-2007. In the same period, we are planning to increase EBIT by \$200 million by means of even more effective market activities.

In Asia Pacific, companies increased sales in local currencies by 21%. EBIT before special items rose EUR 7 million to EUR 113 million. This was due to the new Verbund site in Nanjing, China, and the successful polyurethanes business in Korea.

In South America, Africa, Middle East, sales by location of company declined 8% in local currency terms. EBIT before special items was unchanged at EUR 89 million. The Agricultural Products division made a good start to the new season in the second half of the quarter. In the Performance Products segment, we increased sales and earnings thanks to substantially higher sales volumes of decorative paints.

Consolidated Statements of Income

Million EUR	3rd Quarter			January - September		
	2005	2004	Change in %	2005	2004	Change in %
Sales	10,361	9,314	11.2	31,025	27,679	12.1
Cost of sales	7,277	6,423	13.3	21,205	18,784	12.9
Gross profit on sales	3,084	2,891	6.7	9,820	8,895	10.4
Selling expenses	1,083	1,128	(4.0)	3,172	3,385	(6.3)
General and administrative expenses	194	180	7.8	551	528	4.4
Research and development expenses	326	309	5.5	901	850	6.0
Other operating income	96	64	50.0	278	271	2.6
Other operating expenses	315	262	20.2	1,126	1,002	12.4
Income from operations	1,262	1,076	17.3	4,348	3,401	27.8
(Expenses)/income from financial assets	219	(2)	.	332	56	492.9

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Interest result	(40)	(50)	20.0	(131)	(159)	17.6
Other financial results	(3)	(75)	96.0	(62)	(52)	(19.2)
Financial result	176	(127)	.	139	(155)	.
Income before taxes and minority interests	1,438	949	51.5	4,487	3,246	38.2
Income taxes	622	537	15.8	1,941	1,534	26.5
Net income before minority interests	816	412	98.1	2,546	1,712	48.7
Minority interests	8	46	(82.6)	99	112	(11.6)
Net income	808	366	120.8	2,447	1,600	52.9
Earnings per share (EUR)	1.55	0.67	131.3	4.63	2.90	59.7
Number of shares, in million (weighted)	521	546	(4.6)	528	551	(4.2)

The interim financial statements have not been audited. From January 1, 2005, the financial statements were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS); the previous year's figures have been restated. The transition in accounting and valuation methods and the reconciliation to IFRS for the 2004 figures are described on page 15 ff of the Interim Report for the first quarter of 2005.

As of the second quarter of 2005, we record the current expenses or income from combined interest rate and currency swaps in the interest result rather than under other financial results. The previous year's figures have been restated to allow comparison.

Consolidated Balance Sheets

Assets	Sept. 30,	Sept. 30,	Change	Dec. 31,	Change
Million EUR	2005	2004	in %	2004	in %
Long-term assets					
Intangible assets	3,710	3,840	(3.4)	3,610	2.8
Property, plant and equipment	13,659	13,580	0.6	13,007	5.0
Investments accounted for using the equity method	241	1,684	(85.7)	1,092	(77.9)
Other financial assets	936	931	0.5	941	(0.5)
Deferred taxes	1,088	1,080	0.7	1,067	2.0
Other long-term assets	616	600	2.7	598	3.0
	20,250	21,715	(6.7)	20,315	(0.3)
Short-term assets					
Inventories	5,354	4,716	13.5	4,645	15.3
Accounts receivable, trade	6,306	6,126	2.9	5,861	7.6
Other receivables and miscellaneous short-term assets	1,804	1,964	(8.1)	2,073	(13.0)
Liquid funds	4,311	1,582	172.5	2,291	88.2
	17,775	14,388	23.5	14,870	19.5
Total assets	38,025	36,103	5.3	35,185	8.1

Stockholders' equity and liabilities

Million EUR	Sept. 30,	Sept. 30,	Change	Dec. 31,	Change
	2005	2004	in %	2004	in %
Stockholders' equity					
Subscribed capital	1,330	1,396	(4.7)	1,384	(3.9)
Capital surplus	3,078	3,016	2.1	3,022	1.9
Retained earnings	12,579	12,028	4.6	12,154	3.5
Other comprehensive income	572	5	.	(166)	.
Minority interests	444	371	19.7	347	28.0
	18,003	16,816	7.1	16,741	7.5

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Long-term liabilities					
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	3,930	3,949	(0.5)	3,866	1.7
Other provisions	2,455	2,391	2.7	2,385	2.9
Deferred taxes	991	656	51.1	817	21.3
Financial indebtedness	3,561	1,888	88.6	1,845	93.0
Other liabilities	954	1,020	(6.5)	1,043	(8.5)
	11,891	9,904	20.1	9,956	19.4
Short-term liabilities					
Accounts payable, trade	2,332	2,739	(14.9)	2,372	(1.7)
Provisions	2,896	2,626	10.3	2,508	15.5
Tax liabilities	969	886	9.4	644	50.5
Financial indebtedness	318	1,533	(79.3)	1,453	(78.1)
Other liabilities	1,616	1,599	1.1	1,511	6.9
	8,131	9,383	(13.3)	8,488	(4.2)
Total stockholders' equity and liabilities	38,025	36,103	5.3	35,185	8.1

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

Million EUR	January -September	
	2005	2004
Net income	2,447	1,600
Depreciation and amortization of long-term assets	1,663	1,739
Changes in net working capital	199	505
Miscellaneous items	(299)	(59)
Cash provided by operating activities	4,010	3,785
Payments related to tangible and intangible fixed assets	(1,285)	(1,425)
Acquisitions/divestitures	1,017	5
Financial investments and other items	109	(298)
Cash used in investing activities	(159)	(1,718)
Proceeds from capital increases/(decreases)	(1,115)	(548)
Changes in financial indebtedness	230	(220)
Dividends	(945)	(825)
Cash used in financing activities	(1,830)	(1,593)
Net changes in cash and cash equivalents	2,021	474
Cash and cash equivalents as of beginning of year and other changes	2,125	539
Cash and cash equivalents	4,146	1,013
Marketable securities	165	569
Liquid funds	4,311	1,582

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

At EUR 4,010 million, cash provided by operating activities in the first three quarters was EUR 225 million higher than in the same period of 2004. This was due primarily to higher earnings. Net working capital decreased even though we expanded our business.

Cash used in investing activities led to a cash outflow of EUR 159 million compared with EUR 1,718 million in the first nine months of 2004. At EUR 1,285 million, payments related to tangible and intangible fixed assets were below the previous year's level and were significantly lower than the level of depreciation and amortization on fixed assets. The net effect of acquisitions and divestitures rose to EUR 1,017 million due to the sale of our stake in Basell.

In cash used in financing activities, share buybacks and dividend payments led to a cash outflow of EUR 2.1 billion. In the first nine

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months of 2005, we bought back 21 million shares for EUR 1,124 million or an average of EUR 53.77 per share.

Liquid funds increased by EUR 2,020 million since the end of 2004 to EUR 4,311 million, and at EUR 3,879 million, financial indebtedness was EUR 581 million higher than on December 31, 2004. As of September 30, 2005, net liquidity was EUR 432 million compared with net debt of EUR 1,007 million at the end of 2004. The equity ratio was 47%.

Consolidated Statements of Equity

January - September 2005 Million EUR	Number of subscribed shares outstanding	Subscribed capital	Capital surplus
As of January 1, 2005	540,440,410	1,384	3,022
Share buyback and cancellation of shares including own shares intended to be cancelled	(20,902,229)	(54)	56
Capital injection by minority interests	-	-	-
Dividends paid	-	-	-
Net income	-	-	-
Change in other comprehensive income*	-	-	-
Conditional capital: Exercise of conversion rights by former Wintershall shareholders	819	-	-
Change in scope of consolidation and other changes	-	-	-
As of September 30, 2005	519,539,000	1,330	3,078

January - September 2005 Million EUR	Retained earnings	Other comprehensive income	Minority interests	Stock- holders' equity
As of January 1, 2005	12,154	(166)	347	16,741
Share buyback and cancellation of shares including own shares intended to be cancelled	(1,126)	-	-	(1,124)
Capital injection by minority interests	-	-	10	10
Dividends paid	(904)	-	(41)	(945)
Net income	2,447	-	99	2,546
Change in other comprehensive income*	-	738	27	765
Conditional capital: Exercise of conversion rights by former Wintershall shareholders	-	-	-	0
Change in scope of consolidation and other changes	8	-	2	10
As of September 30, 2005	12,579	572	444	18,003

January - September 2004 Million EUR	Number of subscribed shares outstanding	Subscribed capital	Capital surplus
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As of January 1, 2004	556,643,410	1,425	2,983
Share buyback and cancellation of shares including own shares intended to be cancelled	(11,493,000)	(29)	29
Capital injection by minority interests	-	-	-
Dividends paid	-	-	-
Net income	-	-	-
Change in other comprehensive income*	-	-	-
Change in scope of consolidation and other changes	-	-	4
As of September 30, 2004	545,150,410	1,396	3,016

January - September 2004 Million EUR	Retained earnings	Other comprehensive income	Minority interests	Stockholders' equity
As of January 1, 2004	11,673	28	403	16,512
Share buyback and cancellation of shares including own shares intended to be cancelled	(492)	-	-	(492)
Capital injection by minority interests	-	-	(60)	(60)
Dividends paid	(774)	-	(51)	(825)
Net income	1,600	-	112	1,712
Change in other comprehensive income*	-	(23)	(66)	(89)
Change in scope of consolidation and other changes	21	-	33	58
As of September 30, 2004	12,028	5	371	16,816

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

Segment Reporting

Segments Million EUR	Sales			EBITDA		
3rd Quarter	2005	2004	in %	2005	2004	in %
Chemicals	2,063	1,811	13.9	408	469	(13.0)
Plastics	2,957	2,827	4.6	382	293	30.4
Performance Products	2,106	2,068	1.8	299	307	(2.6)
Agricultural Products & Nutrition	1,008	1,035	(2.6)	77	86	(10.5)
Agricultural Products	576	591	(2.5)	43	45	(4.4)
Fine Chemicals	432	444	(2.7)	34	41	(17.1)
Oil & Gas	1,630	1,163	40.2	697	582	19.8
Other*	597	410	45.6	(20)	(58)	65.5
	10,361	9,314	11.2	1,843	1,679	9.8
	Research and development expenses			Assets**		
3rd Quarter						
Chemicals	34	26	30.8	5,993	5,374	11.5
Plastics	33	35	(5.7)	6,440	6,426	0.2
Performance Products	55	61	(9.8)	4,864	5,082	(4.3)

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Agricultural Products & Nutrition	98	91	7.7	6,453	6,549	(1.5)
Agricultural Products	80	67	19.4	5,164	5,211	(0.9)
Fine Chemicals	18	24	(25.0)	1,289	1,338	(3.7)
Oil & Gas	58	49	18.4	4,356	3,940	10.6
Other*	48	47	2.1	9,919	8,732	13.6
	326	309	5.5	38,025	36,103	5.3

Segments	Income from operations			Income from operations		
Million EUR	before special items			(EBIT)		
3rd Quarter	2005	2004	in %	2005	2004	in %
Chemicals	268	367	(27.0)	259	338	(23.4)
Plastics	267	180	48.3	260	169	53.8
Performance Products	216	216	-	209	214	(2.3)
Agricultural Products & Nutrition	(23)	4	.	(11)	(26)	57.7
Agricultural Products	(24)	(11)	.	(12)	(29)	58.6
Fine Chemicals	1	15	(93.3)	1	3	(66.7)
Oil & Gas	594	459	29.4	594	459	29.4
Other*	5	(54)	.	(49)	(78)	37.2
	1,327	1,172	13.2	1,262	1,076	17.3

3rd Quarter	Additions to fixed assets***			Amortization and depreciation***		
Chemicals	77	114	(32.5)	149	131	13.7
Plastics	113	102	10.8	122	124	(1.6)
Performance Products	61	62	(1.6)	90	93	(3.2)
Agricultural Products & Nutrition	33	60	(45.0)	88	112	(21.4)
Agricultural Products	22	22	-	55	74	(25.7)
Fine Chemicals	11	38	(71.1)	33	38	(13.2)
Oil & Gas	106	120	(11.7)	103	123	(16.3)
Other*	18	33	(45.5)	29	20	45.0
	408	491	(16.9)	581	603	(3.6)

Segments	Sales			EBITDA		
Million EUR						
January - September	2005	2004	in %	2005	2004	in %
Chemicals	5,892	5,141	14.6	1,429	1,282	11.5
Plastics	8,681	7,656	13.4	1,162	859	35.3
Performance Products	6,112	6,026	1.4	969	922	5.1
Agricultural Products & Nutrition	3,827	4,003	(4.4)	822	842	(2.4)
Agricultural Products	2,578	2,645	(2.5)	726	653	11.2
Fine Chemicals	1,249	1,358	(8.0)	96	189	(49.2)
Oil & Gas	5,120	3,647	40.4	1,973	1,454	35.7
Other*	1,393	1,206	15.5	(344)	(251)	(37.1)
	31,025	27,679	12.1	6,011	5,108	17.7

January - September	Research and development expenses			Assets**		
Chemicals	89	78	14.1	5,993	5,374	11.5
Plastics	102	99	3.0	6,440	6,426	0.2
Performance Products	152	171	(11.1)	4,864	5,082	(4.3)
Agricultural Products & Nutrition	276	258	7.0	6,453	6,549	(1.5)
Agricultural Products	223	191	16.8	5,164	5,211	(0.9)
Fine Chemicals	53	67	(20.9)	1,289	1,338	(3.7)

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Oil & Gas	128	111	15.3	4,356	3,940	10.6
Other*	154	133	15.8	9,919	8,732	13.6
	901	850	6.0	38,025	36,103	5.3

Segments Million EUR	Income from operations			Income from operations		
	before special	items	(EBIT)	2005	2004	in %
January - September	2005	2004	in %	2005	2004	in %
Chemicals	1,109	958	15.8	1,030	907	13.6
Plastics	810	515	57.3	808	494	63.6
Performance Products	713	659	8.2	715	647	10.5
Agricultural Products & Nutrition	575	577	(0.3)	565	522	8.2
Agricultural Products	547	482	13.5	563	440	28.0
Fine Chemicals	28	95	(70.5)	2	82	(97.6)
Oil & Gas	1,657	1,141	45.2	1,657	1,148	44.3
Other*	(317)	(237)	(33.8)	(427)	(317)	(34.7)
	4,547	3,613	25.9	4,348	3,401	27.8

January - September	Additions to fixed assets***			Amortization and depreciation***		
	Chemicals	534	432	23.6	399	375
Plastics	315	314	0.3	354	365	(3.0)
Performance Products	249	196	27.0	254	275	(7.6)
Agricultural Products & Nutrition	97	171	(43.3)	257	320	(19.7)
Agricultural Products	48	58	(17.2)	163	213	(23.5)
Fine Chemicals	49	113	(56.6)	94	107	(12.1)
Oil & Gas	356	264	34.8	316	306	3.3
Other*	69	98	(29.6)	83	66	25.8
	1,620	1,475	9.8	1,663	1,707	(2.6)

* "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 (EUR 19 million in the third quarter (previous year EUR 3 million) and EUR (120) million in the first nine months (previous year EUR 1 million)).

** 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; 3rd quarter 2005: EUR 8,252 million, 3rd quarter 2004: EUR 7,155 million).

*** Tangible and intangible fixed assets

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

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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.) We do not assume any obligation to update the forward-looking statements contained in this report.

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

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CONTACT: BASF

Corporate Media Relations:
Michael Grabicki, +49 621 60-99938
Fax: +49 621 60-92693
michael.grabicki@basf-ag.de
or
Investor Relations:
Magdalena Moll, +49 621 60-48230
Fax: +49 621 60-22500
investorrelations@basf-ag.de
or
General inquiries:
Phone: +49 621 60-0
Fax: +49 621 60-42525
info.service@basf-ag.de

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: November 2, 2005

By: /s/ Elisabeth Schick

Name: Elisabeth Schick
Title: Director Site Communications Ludwigshafen

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and Europe

By:/s/ Christian Schubert

Name: Christian Schubert

Title: Director Corporate Communications
BASF Group