

## **Merz Invests 15 Million Euros in New Production Plant** for Dermal Fillers

Frankfurt am Main/Dessau, March 13, 2017—Merz Pharma is constructing a new production plant costing EUR 15 million to produce dermal fillers at its site in Dessau. The building, covering an area of approximately 1,200 square meters, is due for completion in the summer of 2018. In addition to the approximately 100 existing employees in Dessau, 25 new jobs will be created.

"The new production facility is of strategic importance for Merz, as it will allow us to cater to the growing demand for our dermal fillers," says Dr. Torsten Wagner, Senior Vice President Global Technical Operations at Merz. The plan is to manufacture various hyaluronic acid-based Merz brand products in Dessau that refresh the skin, giving it elasticity and volume.

"Merz is strengthening our site with this investment," Site Manager Dr. Michael Pfeil explains. "In addition to producing the botulinum neurotoxin that's so important for Merz, our site will gain a second pillar with filler manufacturing." Pfeil was also pleased that the investment will allow the hiring of 25 additional employees, mainly scientists, engineers, pharmaceutical technicians, and chemical technicians.

This past week, the municipal administration of Dessau-Rosslau granted the building permit. Currently, excavators and bulldozers are preparing the construction site for excavation work. The building shell is expected to be completed by the end of October. The start of production is planned for the summer of 2018.

At its site in Dessau, Merz has been producing a special botulinum neurotoxin since 2008 that is free of complex proteins and used in both neurology and aesthetic medicine. The company manufactures this active ingredient in a complex biotechnological process. The finished drug is manufactured through aseptic filling and freeze-drying. The manufacturing of fillers will also comply with the highest international standards and will take place under clean room conditions.

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## PRESS RELEASE



## **About Merz Pharma Group**

With approximately 3,000 employees and 34 subsidiaries, Merz is a leading global provider in the fields of Aesthetics and Neurotoxins. Privately held for more than 100 years, the company is distinguished by its in-house research and development, solid financial strength, and continuous growth. Complementing its unique portfolio of products for minimally invasive and non-invasive skin rejuvenation and tightening, Merz also develops neurotoxin therapy to treat neurologically induced movement disorders. OTC medicines, dietary supplements, and skincare products round off the offerings from the company, which is headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany. In fiscal year 2015/16, the Merz Pharma Group generated revenue of EUR 1,092.9 million. More information is available at <a href="https://www.merz.com">www.merz.com</a>.

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