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## **Nab Labs to take over BASF's analytical laboratory in Raisio**

**Nab Labs Ltd and Ciba Finland Oy (part of BASF) have agreed on a business acquisition concerning Ciba's analytical laboratory in Raisio, Finland. BASF will continue using the services of the laboratory, based on a separate service agreement. The Raisio laboratory is specialized in analyzing purity and composition of paper chemicals and in demanding deposit analytics related to pulp, paper and board processes.**

As a part of rearranging operations following the acquisition of Ciba Finland Oy, BASF has decided to discontinue laboratory and development operations in Finland. As an alternative to complete closure of the analytical laboratory, a solution was reached, where Nab Labs secures the availability of these high-class services in Finland, for BASF, its Finnish clients and any third party clients. The 11 employees in Raisio will transfer to Nab Labs as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010, with their current employment rights.

The expertise and equipment of the Raisio laboratory are an excellent completion to Nab Labs' services to the pulp and paper industry and related equipment and chemical suppliers. The core competence of the transferring laboratory has focused on analyses of paper chemicals and especially deposit analytics and troubleshooting relating to the papermaking processes. Swift and competent deposit analytics is a tool to resolve everyday process problems and to save operational costs by reducing process disturbances, quality losses and client complaints.

In Raisio, Nab Labs will gain long-term experience and an exceptionally exhaustive set of equipment to provide these services. The equipment includes e.g. versatile ion, gas and liquid chromatography, a scanning electron microscope (SEM) and an NMR spectrometer.

In the arrangement, Nab Labs also becomes a shareholder in Top Analytica Oy, a company based in Turku, Finland, providing highly specialized surface analytics with state-of-the-art equipment. Nab Labs and Top Analytica enter into cooperation, resulting in a wider scope of available analytical services for the clients of both companies.

"I'm very happy about the new expertise and equipment entering Nab Labs as a result of this agreement. We now have a complete analytical setup for troubleshooting papermaking processes and new possibilities to provide comprehensive analytical services to any field of activity. We're also going to look into the possibilities of expanding the cooperation with the Turku area science and technology community", says the managing director of Nab Labs Ltd, **Markku Ahponen**.



**Nab Labs Ltd** produces analysis and measurement services to support production, environmental monitoring, research and development and customer service of the industry in six locations around Finland: Rauma, Espoo, Oulu, Kaustinen, Imatra and Kärämäki. Nab Labs provides services e.g. to the pulp and paper, chemical, metal and energy industries and the consultants of the respective fields. In 2008 the turnover of Nab Labs was approx €8.5 million and the personnel numbered about 120. Further information on Nab Labs is available on the internet at [www.nablabs.fi](http://www.nablabs.fi).

**BASF** is the world's leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics and performance products to agricultural products, fine chemicals as well as oil and gas. As a reliable partner BASF helps its customers in virtually all industries to be more successful. With its high-value products and intelligent solutions, BASF plays an important role in finding answers to global challenges such as climate protection, energy efficiency, nutrition and mobility. BASF posted sales of more than €62 billion in 2008 and had approximately 97,000 employees as of the end of the year. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).

**For further information, please contact**

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