

P R E S S R E L E A S E
Sto SE & Co. KGaA, Stühlingen

- **Information regarding media reports on polystyrene insulation boards and external wall insulation systems (EWIS)**

Stühlingen, 25 November 2014 – Sto SE & Co. KGaA is a major international manufacturer of products and systems for building coatings, especially external wall insulation systems (EWIS). Alongside its competitors as well as the manufacturers of so-called expanded polystyrene (EPS) insulation boards, Sto is currently the subject of comprehensive and extraordinarily critical print and broadcast media coverage.

This media coverage, which is at times very hyperbolic, deals with the subjects of the environmental and economic consequences of facade systems, fire protection issues, the declaration of specific characteristics, antitrust agency investigations and questions regarding building culture.

Sto SE & Co. KGaA is committed to the climate protection goals of our government. As a particularly quality-oriented business, Sto strongly stands up for the proven and tested use of external wall insulation systems on the basis of approved insulation materials. The critical media coverage ignores broadly accepted structural and structural-physical principles, the positive experiences that have been made with external wall insulation systems over the past decades, their extensive field tests and the high level of satisfaction of many users.

Through an open dialogue with its shareholders and stakeholders — in particular its customers and employees — Sto SE & Co. KGaA, on the basis of its experience in the area of energy-efficient renovations with external wall insulation systems, wants to contribute to restoring confidence in this time-tested building technique.

With regard to the doubts that the coverage has cast over the quality of EPS insulation boards that EWIS providers use and that are generally purchased from upstream suppliers, as well as the indications of quality and the commonly accepted quality assurance measures used, Sto SE & Co. KGaA has launched a specific investigation. The company continues to believe that one of its most self-evident tasks is to make sure that the EPS insulation boards it purchases are up to the same high standard of quality as its own products. If deemed necessary, it will continue to develop and improve the quality assurance process with its partners.

Sto SE & Co. KGaA will also take all required steps to either dispel the accusations voiced in the media or, if necessary, to find remedies.

Sto will soon release further statements on all of the relevant questions that have been raised. Extensive information has already been published at www.sto.de.

Sto SE & Co. KGaA is a major international manufacturer of products and systems for building coatings. In 2013, consolidated turnover totalled EUR 1,166.0 million. The company is a leader in the field of external wall insulation systems. Core products also include high-quality facade elements and render, plaster and paints for both exterior and interior use. Other focus areas include concrete restoration/floor coatings, acoustic systems and rainscreen cladding systems.

Contact person:

Rolf Wöhrle, CFO of STO Management SE, acting on behalf of Sto SE & Co. KGaA,
tel.: 07744/57-12 41, email: r.woehrle@sto.com