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Press release

May 22, 2012

Merck Expands Capabilities on Novel Materials for Display and Lighting by Investing in QLight Nanotech

- **Merck acquires interest in Israeli start-up QLight Nanotech**
- **Company develops quantum dot-based technology for lighting and display applications**

Darmstadt / Jerusalem, May 22, 2012 – Merck announced today that within the scope of a capital increase by the Israeli start-up company QLight Nanotech, it is acquiring an interest in the Jerusalem-based company. QLight Nanotech is a spin-off subsidiary of Yissum, the technology transfer company of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. QLight Nanotech develops products for use in displays and energy-efficient light sources based on semiconductor nanoparticles known as quantum dots. The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of 2012. With this investment Merck will hold an equity stake in the Israel start-up company. Further financial details were not disclosed.

For more than three years, QLight Nanotech and Merck have been carrying out joint research into this new class of materials as part of a partnership program sponsored by the Israeli Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor. Merck's investment will help the company to accelerate the development of quantum dot-based technology for new applications. Upon the achievement of R&D milestones, Merck could further increase its stake in Qlight Nanotech, as well as develop and commercialize the new products in its Performance Materials division.

"I am excited that our basic science discoveries on semiconductor nanocrystals are now being realized in innovative technological applications. The partnership with Merck,

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a world leader in materials for display applications, is a synergistic one allowing us at Qlight Nanotech to implement advanced chemicals manufacturing and applications' know-how," said the scientific founder of QLight Nanotech, Professor Uri Banin of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, who will continue to support the company as a shareholder and advisor alongside of Yissum.

Kobi Olin, Chief Executive Officer of Qlight Nanotech, added: "This is a major development for Qlight Nanotech to position us on the runway for becoming a leader in the emerging semiconductor nanoparticle materials and applications field. The Merck partnership is a strategic connection that will enable QLight Nanotech to achieve accelerated technology development and growth in collaboration with major international customers."

Volker Hilarius, Director Scouting and Alliances for Merck's Technology Office Chemicals, added: "Our Investment into QLight Nanotech reflects our belief in the promise of the new technology based on quantum dot materials, particularly for the next generation of displays. We are excited to gain access to this technology and work with Qlight Nanotech as an entrepreneurial organization that is flexible, fast and innovative."

The cooperation is a result of Merck's participation in the Global Enterprise Collaboration Framework Program of the Israeli Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor. This program was set up to grant Israeli partner companies dedicated technical, marketing and sales support in worldwide market places as well as access to business development and application technology resources through a cooperation with global players in industry.



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QLight Nanotech

QLight Nanotech, established in 2009, develops materials and applications based on light-emitting semiconductor nanocrystals called Quantum Dots. Qlight Nanotech boasts a world-class technology team that brings expertise, experience and innovation in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology to the fields of general lighting, displays and more. The company, led by CEO Kobi Olin, is based on technology developed by Professor Uri Banin, one of the leading scientists worldwide, specializing in nanotechnology, electro optics and material sciences from the Institute of Chemistry and the Center for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Find out more about QLight Nanotech at www.qlightnano.com

Yissum

Yissum Research Development Company of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Ltd. was founded in 1964 and commercializes all of Hebrew University's intellectual property. Products based on Hebrew University technologies that have been commercialized by Yissum currently generate \$2 Billion in annual sales. Ranked among the top technology transfer companies in the world, Yissum has registered over 7,700 patents covering 2,200 inventions; has licensed out 580 technologies and has spun out 74 companies. For further information please visit www.yissum.co.il

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Merck is a global pharmaceutical and chemical company with total revenues of € 10.3 billion in 2011, a history that began in 1668, and a future shaped by more than 40,000 employees in 67 countries. Innovations by entrepreneurial employees characterize the success of the company. Merck's operating activities come under the umbrella of Merck KGaA, in which the Merck family holds an approximately 70% interest and shareholders own the remaining approximately 30%. In 1917 the U.S. subsidiary Merck & Co. was expropriated and has been an independent company ever since.