

News Release



BASF manufacturing leader Debbie Dalley honored with national award

STEP Ahead Award recognizes exceptional female leaders in manufacturing

Beaumont, TX, APRIL 25, 2017 – [Debbie Dalley](#), Site Director at BASF in Beaumont, Texas, was recognized for her extraordinary industry achievements through The Manufacturing Institute's [2017 STEP Ahead Awards](#). Focusing on science, technology, engineering and production (STEP), the program honored 130 women nationally for their advocacy, mentorship, engagement and leadership in the industry.

As the national sponsor of the STEP Ahead initiative, BASF collaborates with [The Manufacturing Institute](#) on the grassroots movement of manufacturers dedicated to overcoming the shared challenges facing young women in manufacturing today. This initiative promotes the role of women in the industry, provides mentoring, and leads research on the topic.

“Women bring a great deal of value to the industry – they are natural leaders in ways that build purpose, inclusion, and confidence,” said Heidi Alderman, STEP Ahead Chair and Senior Vice President Intermediates North America, BASF. “The future of the industry relies on the deliberate and intentional increase of female leaders, and BASF is a strong advocate for advancing women in the realm of manufacturing.”

Three additional BASF employees, [Laura Fisher](#), Reliability Engineer in

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Freeport, Texas, [Regina Molisee](#), Quality & Continuous Improvement Manager at BASF in Attapulgus, Georgia, and [Ashley Thompson](#), Process Engineer II in Chattanooga, Tennessee, were recognized during the ceremony.

STEP *Ahead* honorees across the U.S. have pledged to promote the importance of women in manufacturing. The Manufacturing Institute, Deloitte, and APICS conducted a [survey](#) that found that the award honorees impacted more than 300,000 individuals – from peers in the industry to school age children – over the last five years.

The study also found that, compared to others, STEP *Ahead* honorees and Emerging Leaders are promoted more often, have a clearer vision of their career path and aspirations, and are committed to encouraging future generations of women to pursue manufacturing careers.

“Through STEP *Ahead*, hundreds of women from all levels of manufacturing have been recognized for excellence and leadership in their careers. By telling the real stories of these women, girls will be inspired to familiarize themselves with the industry through our mentorship program and eventually become the next manufacturing leaders,” said, AJ Jorgenson, Assistant Vice President at The Manufacturing Institute. “We are extremely thankful for the support and sponsorship from BASF, and for their tremendous leadership and foresight in the design and execution of STEP *Ahead*.”

This year, BASF’s [Heidi Alderman](#) served as the 2017 [STEP Ahead Chairwoman](#). The company also sponsored the fifth-annual award ceremony, which was held April 20 in Washington, D.C.

For more information about BASF careers and efforts that promote women in manufacturing, visit <http://www.basf.us/women>.

For press photos, please click on the following link:

https://www.basf.com/press-photos/us/en/photos/2017/04/04-25-17_NationalSTEPAward.jpg

Suggested Caption: (Left to Right) STEP Ahead Chair and BASF SVP Intermediates, Heidi Alderman, poses with honorees Ashley Thompson, Laura Fisher, Debbie Dalley, and Regina Molisee, who were recognized for their extraordinary industry achievements through The Manufacturing Institute's 2017 STEP *Ahead* Awards.

About BASF

BASF Corporation, headquartered in Florham Park, New Jersey, is the North American affiliate of BASF SE, Ludwigshafen, Germany. BASF has more than 17,500 employees in North America, and had sales of \$16.2 billion in 2016. For more information about BASF's North American operations, visit www.basf.us.

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 114,000 employees in the BASF Group work on contributing to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio is organized into five segments: Chemicals, Performance Products, Functional Materials & Solutions, Agricultural Solutions and Oil & Gas. BASF generated sales of about €58 billion in 2016. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (BAS). Further information at www.basf.com.