

# NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **New chairman for Poseidon ocean-freight initiative**

**London, Jan 8 2019: Torben Weilmuenster has been elected as Chairman of the governing council of Poseidon, the groundbreaking pharmaceutical logistics program.**



Poseidon is a network of independent pharma ocean freight shippers and logistics providers with the core objective of reforming the pharmaceutical logistics process and making ocean freight the default mode of carriage for bulk medicines.

“We are delighted to have Torben Weilmuenster in the chair of the Poseidon management group” said Alan Kennedy, Poseidon Executive Director. “The Poseidon model provides a revolutionary solution to the mounting problems associated with ensuring that sensitive pharmaceutical products are transported safely and within regulatory guidelines. This is a particularly important time for the Poseidon network which will be commencing commercial activities during 2019 and developing a GDP-compliant part-load service. Torben brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the role and will provide fresh impetus and valuable insights to the program.”

Torben Weilmuenster is currently the Global Head of Supply Chain Management at Frankfurt-based Merz Pharma GmbH & Co. KgaA, a position which includes overall responsibility for logistics planning and execution at the company. His appointment as Chair of the Management Group at Poseidon follows a formal election process amongst the Poseidon network participants. The office of Chairman is a new one and comes with a two-year tenure. In this role Torben will be supported by Dr. Steve Brabbs, Global Technology Leader for Cold Chain Protection at DuPont, who has been appointed Vice Chairman.

Commenting on his new position, Weilmuenster said: “I am honoured to have been chosen to play a role in steering this important ocean-freight initiative forward. The safe, reliable and legally-compliant movement of medicines is a fundamental goal of all pharmaceutical manufacturers. For the volume transport of medicines, shipping by sea is proving to be a more manageable and controllable process than sending by air. It is also a fraction of the cost of the equivalent air cargo and it is much more environmentally sustainable.”

**ENDS**

### ***About POSEIDON***

The Poseidon program is an industry reform initiative conceived to improve the conveyance of pharmaceutical products by ocean transport. This is being achieved through the application of contemporary supply chain best-practice and structured, multi-party collaboration. The strength of the Poseidon program rests in the collective energy and resource of its end-to-end supply chain structure built around managed strategic partnerships, commercial alignment and a ‘one-team’ culture. Poseidon is open to all shippers of pharmaceutical finished products and ingredients.

### ***About MERZ PHARMA***

Merz is a privately held pharmaceutical company based in Frankfurt, Germany with affiliates across Europe, as well as the US, Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Asia Pacific. The company is active in research, development and distribution of innovative products in the areas of aesthetic medicine and neurologically induced movement disorders.