Locomotives equipped with the new MTU Series 1600 engine have gone into service for the first time. A total of 16 locomotives powered by the newly developed 12V 1600 R50 engine are set to be commissioned at the BASF plant in Ludwigshafen. The engine from MTU, a Rolls-Royce Power Systems brand, generates 690 kW power for the diesel-hydraulic drive system which takes the Vossloh type G6 locomotives up to a top speed of 80 km/h. The engines comply with the European Stage IIIB emissions standard and were developed in accordance with the special requirements of the European rail sector.

The locomotives will be used for in-plant freight transport at the BASF plant in Ludwigshafen. They are also available for the plants in Schwarzheide and Antwerp, as part of a locomotive pool.

The G6 locomotives were commissioned within the scope of a program for modernizing in-plant freight transport at BASF. A total of 22 modern diesel locomotives will replace the older locomotive fleet of the largest chemical company in the world. In addition to the 16 G6 locomotives, four type DE 12 and two type DE 18 locomotives are included in the program. Both models are powered by MTU series 4000 engines: DE 12 locomotives are equipped with the 8V 4000 R43 and the DE 18 is powered by the 12V version of the same engine.