

**Touring Davos: Dr. Axel C. Heitmann, LANXESS AG**  
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In a guest comment for the daily "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung", Dr. Axel C. Heitmann, chairman of the board of management of LANXESS AG, describes the influence of the World Economic Forums (WEF). The WEF is no "vanity fair", as globalization critics state, but is quite hard to classify. It contributes decisively to raising the awareness of the main players in politics and industry regarding their responsibility. Despite the shadow of the credit crisis, looming over the meeting, confidence prevails, he adds. The unplanned meetings and spontaneous talks revealed openness for each other and respect of the greater challenges, with climate protection being the top priority, which is also envisioned by the chemical industry. Another piece of good news: The industry currently does not fear the phantom of a recession. At the close of the meeting in Davos, Heitmann will hold one-to-one talks with Singapore's prime minister on the industry's development options in Asia. Singapore is a good example for how the chemical sector supports healthy growth and sustainable wealth, without having to resort to its own raw-material and energy reserves.