

CH Information

News – Honors – Workshops – Conferences – Lectures

NEWS

Shandong Chengtai Chemical Industry Co has selected the Catofin catalyst manufactured by Swiss specialty chemicals producer **Clariant** for a new grassroots iso-butane dehydrogenation unit it is building in Changyi, Shandong Province. The plant will use the company's dehydrogenation technology to produce 114,000 t/y of isobutylene.

Roche plans to invest 120 million CHF in new production facilities at Basel. Around €85 million of the total will go for new chemical ingredients, the remainder in expansion and retrofitting of an existing flexible multipurpose unit for investigational medicines already on the market. Roche said initial preparatory work has begun, and production of the drug ingredients will start up in the third quarter of 2016, while the multipurpose plant will go on stream in June 2015.

Swiss drugmaker **Novartis** said it would sell its animal health arm to US rival Eli Lilly for about \$5.4 billion. Lilly said the deal would turn its Elanco unit from the world's no. 4 animal health group by revenue to the global no. 2 in a sector that supplies medicines, vaccines and feed additives for farm and domestic animals. The sector's biggest operator is Zoetis, spun off by Pfizer last year. The Lilly business posted sales of \$2.15 billion in 2013, up 6% year-on-year, compared with about \$1.1 billion for Novartis' animal health activities. The deal crowns a period of fast expansion for Elanco, whose operating profit margins rose to 26% last year.

Novartis and **GlaxoSmithKline** have announced an asset swap worth more than \$20 billion, with an eye to bolstering their best businesses and exiting weaker ones. The swap calls Novartis to buy GSK's oncology portfolio, while GSK acquires Novartis' vaccines business. Novartis said it had agreed to pay \$14.5 billion for GSK's oncology products, plus another \$1.5 billion if results of a trial in melanoma are successful. The deal will strengthen Novartis' world no. 2 position in oncology behind Roche. Novartis said it was also selling to GSK its vaccines, excluding flu, for \$5.25 billion plus potential milestone payments of up to \$1.8 billion and ongoing royalties, as well as creating a joint venture with the British company in consumer healthcare. GSK chief Andrew Witty said his group did not have sufficient scale to compete in cancer drugs, so it made sense to put them into "the hands of somebody who is a world leader in oncology." Conversely, he said the deals with Novartis will strengthen the group in two of its core franchises: vaccines, a business that supplied more than 2 million shots every day, and consumer health, where it will take the lead in running a business worth about \$10 billion in annual revenue with the Swiss group.

HONORS

Prof. Dr. **Frederic Merkt**, ETH Zürich, wurde zum ordentlichen Mitglied der Berlin-Brandenburgischen (vormals Preussischen) Akademie der Wissenschaften gewählt.

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. **Martin Quack**, ETH Zürich, wurde zum korrespondierenden Mitglied der Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen gewählt.

CONFERENCES IN SWITZERLAND

01.07.–31.12.2014

International Mass Spectrometry Conference (IMSC)

24.08.2014–29.08.2014

International Conference Centre in Geneva (CICG), Geneva

The IMSC is the largest international mass spectrometry conference, bringing together scientists covering all aspects of mass spectrometry and related fields, from fundamentals and instrumentation, to applications in such diverse areas as organic chemistry, isotope / elemental analysis, environmental science, and biology.

www.imsc2014.ch/

SET2014 The 13th International Conference on Sustainable Energy Technologies

25.08.2014–28.08.2014

Geneva

SET 2014 is a multi-disciplinary international conference on the sustainable energy sources and technologies, and will provide a forum for the exchange of latest technical information, the dissemination of the high-quality research results on the issues, the presentation of the new developments in the area of sustainable energy, and the debate and shaping of future directions and priorities for better environment, sustainable development and energy security.

www.hes-so.ch/set2014/

65th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry

31.08.2014–05.09.2014

Swiss Tech Convention Center (STCC), EPFL, Lausanne

The meeting will illustrate the central role played by electrochemistry in different fields ranging from analytical chemistry to solar cells, from corrosion to fuel cells, from transportation to DNA sequencing. Above all, electrochemistry is a fundamental science at the frontier between physics, chemistry and biology.

<http://annual65.ise-online.org/>

BioTech 2014

04.09.2014–05.09.2014

Grüntal Campus, Wädenswil

Interdisciplinary conference on bioprocess analytics and sensor technology. The BioTech conference series has been successfully focusing on various topics in biotechnology for many years, bringing together scientists and professionals from both industry and academia.

www.biotech2014.ch/

SCS Fall Meeting 2014

11.09.2014–11.09.2014

University of Zurich, Institute of Chemistry, Zurich

The Fall Meeting represents a major event for chemical research in Switzerland, offering a unique opportunity for graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and senior scientists from academia and industry.

www.scg.ch/fallmeeting2014/

Applica 2014

18.09.2014–18.09.2014

Kongresszentrum Oekolampad, Basel

Die APPLICA, ein praxisorientiertes Fachseminar, das sich an Anwender moderner Trenntechniken wendet, wird nun bereits zum 7. Mal durchgeführt. Der Fokus ist dieses Mal auf die Entwicklung und Anwendung neuester stationärer Phasen sowie alternative Detektionsmethoden ausgerichtet. Eine Ausstellung ist integrierter Bestandteil des Seminarablaufes. Dadurch ist ein intensiver Kontakt zwischen Ausstellern und Teilnehmern garantiert, der durch Workshops weiter vertieft wird.

www.applika-analytik.ch/

SPICA 2014

05.10.2014–08.10.2014

Congress Center Messe Basel, Basel

15th International Symposium on Preparative and Industrial Chromatography and Allied Techniques

www.spica2014.org/

11. Swiss Course on Medicinal Chemistry 2014

12.10.2014–17.10.2014

Mercure Classic Hotel, Leysin

This five-day Medicinal Chemistry School, that is organized by the Division of Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology of the Swiss Chemical Society, will focus on most modern aspects associated with small molecule drug discovery, highlighting the relevance of hit generation, lead finding and lead optimization technologies.

www.scg.ch/leysin2014/

Ecochem, The Global Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering Event

11.11.2014–13.11.2014

Congress Center Basel, Basel

The meeting will aim to accelerate innovation, research, commercialisation and market uptake in design and production, as well as use of efficient, effective, safe and more environmentally benign chemical products and processes.

www.ecochemex.com

LECTURES**University of Fribourg**

Main auditorium Chemistry Department

07.07.2014 10.15 h *Prof. Joseph Michl, University of Colorado, Boulder, USA*
‘Anti-Werner Complexes for Catalysis by Li+ (tentative)’

07.07.2014 11.15 h *Prof. Helmut Schwarz, Burkhard Butschke, TU Berlin, Germany*
‘Oxidative Dehydrosulfurization and Selective Bond Activation by ‘Roll-over’ Cyclometalated Pt(II) Complexes: Theory and Experiment in Concert’

07.07.2014 14.00 h *Prof. Peter Chen, ETH Zürich, Switzerland*
‘Gas Phase Thermochemistry in Organic and Organometallic Chemistry’

07.07.2014 15.00 h *Prof. Hendrik Zipse, LMU München, Germany*
‘Radical Stability in Chemistry and Biology’

Université Genève, Chimie organique

Auditoire A-100

03.07.2014 16.30 h *Dr Jean Suffert, University of Strasbourg, France*
Title to be announced

Lausanne; EPFL, Institut des Sciences et Ingénierie Chimiques

EPFL BCH 2218 (batiment Chimie UNIL)

16.07.2014 11.00 h *Prof. Chris Vanderwal, University of California, Irvine, USA*
‘Synthesis of Complex Polyhalogenated Natural Products’
Organic Chemistry Seminars

The complete and updated lecture calendar is available on www.scg.ch/lectures