

CH Information

News – Honors – Workshops – Conferences – Lectures

NEWS

(source *CHEManager*)

Clariant has agreed to divest its Business Line Energy Storage to Johnson Matthey. The total consideration of the sale amounts to \$75 million at closing which is expected early 2015. The Energy Storage business of Clariant is the largest hydrothermal Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) producer in the world. The lithium ion cathode material is used in electric vehicles and stationary battery applications. In 2013 the Energy Storage business generated around CHF 16 million in sales. The business employs around 100 employees predominantly in Canada and Germany. "The divestment of the Energy Storage business with its LFP technology is part of our focused portfolio management and re-allocating capital towards our core areas Care Chemicals, Catalysis and Energy, Natural Resources, and Plastics and Coatings," said Hariolf Kottmann, CEO of Clariant. Robert MacLeod, Chief Executive of Johnson Matthey said: "This acquisition provides us with a strong position in LFP from which to develop a broad portfolio of battery materials. It further strengthens our battery technologies capability which marks an important step in Johnson Matthey's long term strategy to establish new business areas."

US drugmaker Bristol-Myers Squibb and Swiss fine and specialty chemicals specialist **Lonza** have announced a multi-year expansion of their existing biologics manufacturing agreement. The contract extension will include the production of commercial quantities of a second Bristol-Myers Squibb biologic medicine at Lonza's mammalian manufacturing facility in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in the US. Biologics are an integral part of Bristol-Myers Squibb's specialty care portfolio and R&D pipeline. The company has been collaborating with Lonza since 2003 to produce commercial supplies of a biologics medicine marketed by Bristol-Myers Squibb worldwide. Currently, Lonza also produces clinical supplies of an investigational biologics medicine for its US partner. "Our expanded relationship with Lonza is an important example of our global manufacturing strategy to meet anticipated demand for our commercial biologics portfolio and prepare to bring our late-stage clinical assets to patients by supplementing our in-house manufacturing capabilities," said Lou Schmukler, president, global manufacturing & supply at Bristol-Myers Squibb. Lonza operates development and manufacturing facilities offering expression systems and established platform processes for streamlined scale-up throughout the clinical pipeline. In addition to Portsmouth, the Swiss company has three additional clinical-to-commercial mammalian production facilities in Tuas, Singapore, Porrino, Spain, and Slough, UK.

HONORS

The 2015 Earle K. Plyler Prize for Molecular Spectroscopy & Dynamics is awarded to **Majed Chergui**, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne. The prize recognizes and encourages notable contributions to the field of molecular spectroscopy and dynamics. The prize consists of \$10,000, an allowance for travel

expenses, up to \$1000, to attend the meeting at which the prize is to be presented and a certificate citing the contributions made by the recipient.

Auszeichnung für Forscher der Empa und der Universität Basel

Florent Boudoire, Rita Toth, Jakob Heier, Artur Braun (Empa) und Prof. **Ed Constable** (University of Basel) wurden in der Kategorie «Innovators» ausgezeichnet. US-Magazin *Foreign Policy* würdigte die Gruppe für einen 2014 erschienenen Forschungsbeitrag zur Entwicklung der Solartechnik, der sich zwei unüblichen Dingen zuwandte: Rost und den Augen von Motten. Dem Sonnenlicht ausgesetzt, können Rost-basierte Photoelektroden Wasser in seine elementaren Bestandteile zerlegen und sauberen Wasserstoff produzieren, der sich speichern lässt. Dieses Verfahren könnte die Produktion von Wasserstoff als Kraftstoff revolutionieren und dazu beitragen, die Speicherprobleme zu umgehen, die in der Regel mit Solarstrom verbunden sind. Die Methode funktioniert indes nur, wenn die Metalloxide hauchdünn geschichtet sind. Für die Lösung dieser Aufgabe liessen sich die Forscher von Motten inspirieren. Die kleinen Augen der Insekten fangen Mondlicht auf und vermeiden gleichzeitig Reflexionen, die Fressfeinden helfen würden, sie zu finden. Durch das Anbringen von Wolframoxid-Sphären an die Photoelektroden gelang es dem Schweizer Team, Licht unter einer nanodünnen Rostschicht einzufangen. Die Ergebnisse eröffnet eine neue Methode zur Produktion von Wasserstoff als Kraftstoff, welche die nächste Generation von Solartechnologien beflügeln könnte, so *Foreign Policy*. Das zweimonatlich erscheinende US-Magazin *Foreign Policy* ist thematisch der Aussenpolitik der USA sowie den internationalen Beziehungen gewidmet. Die Liste der 100 führenden «Global Thinkers» des Jahres wurde von *Foreign Policy* 2014 zum sechsten Mal veröffentlicht. (Quelle U Basel News)

Originalbeitrag: Florent Boudoire, Rita Toth, Jakob Heier, Artur Braun, Edwin C. Constable, 'Photonic light trapping in self-organized all-oxide microspheroids impacts photoelectrochemical water splitting', *Energy & Environmental Science* 2014, issue 8, doi: 10.1039/c4ee00380b.

CONFERENCES IN SWITZERLAND

01.01.–30.06.2015

13th Snow Symposium 2015 by SYCA

23.01.2015–25.01.2015

Panorama Hotel Alphubel***, Saas-Fee

Science meets Snow! Symposium for young chemists up to 36 years with a interesting combination of science, networking, fun and sports.

<http://scg.ch/snows Symposium/2015>

Changing Paradigms in Drug Development

03.02.2015–17.11.2015

Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern

This five-day thematic education program (February 3, March

24, May 27, September 15 and November 17, 2015) will help you build critical connections between specific areas of knowledge and skills and the global enterprise of drug development.
<http://www.loroch.ch/courses/content/changing-paradigms-drug-development>

ContaSed 2015

08.03.2015 – 13.03.2015

Congressi Stefano Franscini, Monte Verità, Ascona
 Contaminated Sediments: Environmental Chemistry, Ecotoxicology and Engineering
 Conference Themes: Organic and Inorganic Contaminants, Effects and Risk Assessment, Remediation and Engineering
<http://contased.org>

CHanalysis 2015

10.04.2015 – 11.04.2015

Dorint Hotel, Beatenberg

The goal is to stimulate a stronger cooperation among persons working in the different areas of analytical sciences. In addition to lectures and discussions, an informal evening session is scheduled for networking and building new contacts across scientific borders.

<https://scg.ch/chanalysis>

Freiburger Symposium by DIAC

23.04.2015 – 24.04.2015

Hochschule für Technik und Architektur Freiburg, Gebäude A, Auditorium Edouard Gremaud, Freiburg
 «Smart Solutions in the Chemical Process Product Development»
 Case Studies from the Chemical Industry
<http://scg.ch/freiburgersymposium/2015>

SCS Spring Meeting 2015

24.04.2015

Universität Basel, Department of Chemistry, Basel
 «The Chemistry of Complex Systems» – A symposium in collaboration with the National Centers of Competence in Research (NCCR).
 Invited Speakers: Prof. Stefan Matile, University of Geneva, Prof. David Leigh, University of Manchester, Prof. Itamar Willner, Jerusalem University, Prof. Jason Chin, Cambridge University, Prof. Roeland Nolte, Nijmegen University.

Labotec 2015

06.05.2015 – 07.05.2015

MCH Beaulieu Lausanne, Lausanne

Labotec 2015 is the show for technologies and services for laboratories. Keep abreast of the challenges your industry must cope with, such as advances in medicine, pricing caps, cost containment, pressure to perform and quality assurance. At Labotec you'll find the right products and solutions for your business.

http://www.easyfairs.com/laboteclausanne_48072/

HPLC 2015

21.06.2015 – 25.06.2015

International Conference Center Geneva (CICG), Geneva
 42nd International Symposium on high performance liquid phase separations and related techniques
 The HPLC series, since its first edition in 1973 in Interlaken, Switzerland, has established itself as one of the leading conference in analytical chemistry and in particular in the field of separation sciences and related topics. The emphasis of the meeting will be around fundamental aspects of separation sciences, sample preparation, novel developments and applications as well as hyphenation with mass spectrometry.
<http://www.hplc2015-geneva.org/>

LECTURES

01.01.15 – 28.02.2015

Société Chimique de Genève

Université de Genève – Bâtiment Sciences II –
 Auditoire A. Pictet – A100

19.01.2015 *Dr. Luc Patiny, ISIC, EPFL Lausanne*
 17.30 h 'New challenges in the management of chemical information'

University of Fribourg

Big Lecture Hall, Chemistry Department

24.02.2015 *Prof. Eric Vauthey, Department of Physical Chemistry, University of Geneva, Switzerland*
 17.15 h Title to be announced

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