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ATC Ticino Chemical Association*

The continuous increase in the number of qualified persons operating in our canton of Ticino in chemistry, chemical engineering, and related fields led to the formation on 2nd May 1981 of the Ticino Chemical Association (ATC). The Association has its headquarters at Bellinzona and has as its objectives the promotion of links between members, the protection of their academic qualifications and professional, economic, and social interests. The Association watches over the professional ethics of its members and takes a position regarding problems of the canton of Ticino which either directly or indirectly affect chemistry or related disciplines.

The ATC sets itself the following aims: Study of problems connected to chem-

Organisation of cultural and professional exhibitions as well as of study groups regarding problems directly or indirectly related to the scope of the Association.

- Availability for activities of consulting or arbitration on matters of public interest.
- Promotion of contacts between members and other professional categories.

The Association looks after the professional interests of its individual members and takes all necessary action towards this end, as well as assuming a position on questions of public interest in the name of and on behalf of the Association.

At the moment the Association has 130 members who have completed their academic training and are occupied in various sectors: from control (cantonal laboratories, cantonal government departments, quality control in production, etc.) to research (chemists working at universities, industrial researchers in sectors such as chemistry, pharmaceuticals, food or material science), from planning (production plants for the chemical, pharmaceutical, environmental sectors; safety management) to production and teaching.

The background of the ATC members is quite varied: whilst 41% of the members have studied pure chemistry, a full 30% are chemical engineers and 16% are food technologists, with the remainder consisting of biochemists, physicists, and mechanical engineers.

The president for 1994–1995 is Dr. *Monica Duca Widmer*, c/o Studio *Widmer*-CEC, CH-6805 Mezzovico (Phone 091/95 10 88).

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