# CHIMIA REPORT/COMPANY NEWS

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### SATW - it's all about technology

The Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences SATW is the most important network of experts for engineering sciences in Switzerland and is in contact with the highest Swiss bodies for science, politics and industry. The network is comprised of selected individual members, member organisations and experts.

On behalf of the federation, the SATW identifies industrially relevant technological developments and informs politics and society about their importance and consequences. As a unique expert organisation with high credibility, it conveys independent and objective information on technology – as the basis for establishing well-founded opinions. The SATW also promotes the interests and understanding of technology in the population, including young people in particular. It is politically independent and non-commercial.

#### Members and member organisations

The SATW has around 350 individual members and 55 member organisations, among them the Swiss Chemical Society (since 1992). Individual members are outstanding experts from the fields of education, research, commerce, industry and politics. They are appointed for life. Specialist Swiss organisations serving the engineering sciences can apply to become member organisations of SATW. Member organisations pay an annual subscription and can apply to the SATW for grants for projects and events. Thus, the SATW has repeatedly supported SCS activities, such as the Fall Meeting.



SATW Board of Directors and guest speakers at this year's "Journées de Réflexion" in Brunnen (SZ).

## Technology Outlook

One of the SATW's key missions is the early identification of new, possibly disruptive technologies that will become relevant for Switzerland's economy and society in the next three to five years. Every two years, the SATW therefore publishes a public early identification report that presents these technologies and assesses their significance. The current report presents groundbreaking technologies drawn from the fields most relevant to the Swiss economy. This list of technologies was compiled in close cooperation with the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) as well as more than 70 experts. The next issue is due in 2021. To preorder your copy, please visit: <a href="https://satw.ch/order-to21">https://satw.ch/order-to21</a>

# **SATW** topical platforms

The SATW has multiple topical platforms. These are networks of experts who are particularly active in the field of early technology detection. The members of these topical platforms identify new technological developments and point out fields of action and consequences for Switzerland.

#### SATW topical platform "Chemistry"

The main mission of the topical platform chemistry is the early identification of problems or opportunities in the chemical, biochemical and pharmaceutical sectors that are relevant to Swiss industry. In addition, the environmental risks from these areas are also monitored. Currently, the following topics are discussed and dealt with: bio-based plastics, antimicrobial polymers, antimicrobial surfaces and textiles, thermally conductive electrical insulators for adhesives, multifunctional adhesives and new joining processes, functional fibers, CO<sub>2</sub> saturated sands from recycled concrete or the increasing regulation of e.g. preservatives.

### Chemists wanted: Join the discussion!

The big industry's perspective is currently underrepresented in the SATW topical platform "Chemistry". Therefore, we are looking for one or several representatives from big chemical corporations, preferably with a background in productions as additional members. The platform usually meets twice a year and members communicates regularly via e-mail.

Interested in contributing? For further information, please contact the platform head, Dr Urs Mäder, via e-mail: *ursjmaeder@bluewin.ch*.

#### Contact

Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences SATW St. Annagasse 18 8001 Zürich Phone +41 44 226 50 11 Email: info@satw.ch www.satw.ch

