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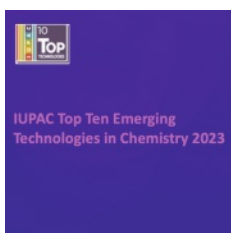
Community News

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SWISS CHEMICAL SOCIETY NEWS

IUPAC Top Ten Emerging Technologies



The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) has released the 2023 Top Ten Emerging Technologies in Chemistry. The goal of this initiative is to showcase the transformative value of chemistry and to inform the general public about the potential of chemical sciences to foster the well-being of Society and the sustainability of our planet.

The Jury - an international panel of prestigious scientists with a varied and broad range of expertise - reviewed and discussed the diverse pool of nominations of emerging technologies submitted by researchers from around the globe and selected the final top ten. These technologies are defined as transformative innovations in between a discovery and a fully-commercialized technology, having outstanding potential to open new opportunities in chemistry, sustainability, and beyond.

The 2023 finalists are (in alphabetical order):

- Artificial muscles
- Biological recycling of PET
- Chloride-mediated removal of ocean CO₂
- Depolymerisation
- GPT language models in chemistry
- Low-sugar vaccination
- Phage therapy
- Photocatalytic hydrogen
- Synthetic electrochemistry
- Wearable sensors

IUPAC President, Professor Javier García Martínez, has said that “The challenge of providing clean energy, sufficient food, and safe drinking water for a growing world population is one of the most pressing issues of our time. To meet this challenge, we need to develop technologies that can help us achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Each year, a group of international experts chosen by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) identifies technologies that are halfway between the laboratory and the marketplace and that have the potential to help us build a better future for all. Starting in 2019, IUPAC has offered policymakers, industry leaders, and funding agencies a roadmap designed by some of the world’s most recognized experts. This roadmap is designed to help decision-makers make informed decisions based on the best available science and technology.”

More information: iupac.org

Review General Assembly 2023 of the youngSCS



The general assembly of the youngSCS was held at the SCS Fall Meeting on August 24, 2023 at Von Roll Areal, University of Bern. An overview of the last years events was given, future events were presented, and a new board was elected. More than 40 attendees joined the event and motivated the board members to continue the efforts to further establish the community.

In the past year, the youngSCS has grown further and expanded its activities. Apart from relaunching the Swiss Snow Symposium and getting involved in the International Chemistry Olympiad, they organized several company visits, such as at Bachem and Metrohm, and workshops. Furthermore, they continued the efforts to establish local groups that connect the youngSCS with the young researchers at the different Swiss research institutions. As a result, different events were organized, such as the first edition of the BeNeFri symposium in April. The assembly was the occasion to elect a new board which will continue to promote chemistry and connect young researcher across Switzerland.

The new youngSCS board positions are:

- President: Marie-Désirée Scheidt, University of Neuchâtel
- Vice-President: Gaetano Geraci, University of Bern
- Secretary: Tara Forrest, University of Geneva
- Treasurer: Konstantina Armadorou, EPF Lausanne
- Communication: Ghewa AlSabeih, Adolphe-Merkel Institute/EPF Lausanne
- EYCN Delegate: Chrysanthi Papadimou, University of Neuchâtel
- IYCN Delegate: Magdalena Lederbauer, ETH Zurich

Stay informed about the youngSCS' activities: scg.ch/youngSCS

Grand Prix de la Fondation de la Maison de la Chimie 2024 – Call for Nominations



The prize is intended to reward original work in chemistry that benefits people, society and nature.

The GRAND PRIX will be awarded for the nineteenth time in 2024, to one or several persons, irrespective of nationality. The prize will carry a monetary award of 35,000 Euros.

All entries must imperatively be presented through a learned society or a national or international scientific organisation without any direct link with the nominee.

Entry forms, together with a report detailing the arguments for the nomination, must be returned to the Fondation de la Maison de la Chimie by 30th April 2024. Documents should be sent to presidence@maisondelachimie.com

The international jury is composed of a Chairman, nine members recognized for their work in the different fields of chemistry, and the laureates of the two previous GRAND PRIX. The laureate will be invited to deliver a lecture on her/his work at an award ceremony that will take place at the Maison de la Chimie in February 2025.

More information: <https://actions.maisondelachimie.com>

2024 EFMC Honorary Fellows: Call for nominations



The EFMC is pleased to announce the 2024 call for nominations for the title of "Honorary Fellows".

This life-long title and associated medal aim to recognize the individuals who have provided outstanding support to the EFMC and contributed in strengthening the position of medicinal chemistry, chemical biology or related

fields in Europe.

Nomination Process

Nominations can be submitted until January 31, 2024.

Self-nominations are not accepted. There are no age restrictions, and nominees may have an academic or industrial background. Nominees should be European residents or have spent a considerable proportion of their career in Europe.

The award ceremony will take place during the opening of the XXVIII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2024), scheduled to take place in Rome, Italy on September 1-5, 2024. Appointed Honorary Fellows will be invited to attend the meeting and receive their recognition on stage. More information: <https://www.efmc.info>

EuChemS met in Cyprus for the General Assembly 2023



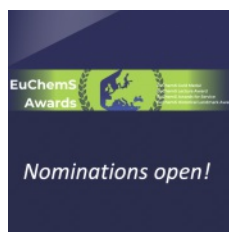
The 2023 EuChemS Annual Meetings were held in Larnaca, Cyprus, between 11–13 October. The Pancyprrian Union of Chemists hosted the event.

On the first day, the EuChemS Executive Board met for the third time this year, following the meetings in Thessaloniki, Greece, on 9–10 February and the online meeting of 16 June. The Executive Board evaluated the developments since its last meeting and discussed the strategic directions of EuChemS.

This meeting was followed by the Business Session of the General Assembly on 12 October where Member Society representatives with voting rights voted on a number of resolutions. Amongst other topics, the growth of EuChemS was decided: we welcome a new Member Society and two new Professional Networks. The next day, Member Societies, Professional Networks and invited guests participated in the Open Session of the Assembly. EuChemS President Floris Rutjes, Secretary General Nineta Hrastelj, Professional Network Representative Joana Amaral and Maximilian Menche, Former Chair of European Young Chemists' Network presented EuChemS' state of affairs. Following presentations, open discussion took place on various topics relevant to future EuChemS activities.

On Friday afternoon, Professional Networks met with the Presiding Council and the EuChemS Secretariat to briefly review past activities and discuss future collaborations. More information: <https://www.magazine.euchems.eu>

Call for Nominations: EuChemS Awards 2024



On 12 September 2023, EuChemS opened up nominations for the EuChemS Lecture Award, the EuChemS Award for Service and the EuChemS Historical Landmark Award. Nominations are invited until 19 December 2023, 18:00 CET.

The EuChemS Lecture Award is a honour given every year to a junior scientist working in chemistry in a country with a EuChemS Member Organisation. The EuChemS Awards for Service is looking for nominees who possess an outstanding commitment with regard to fostering chemistry sciences in Europe, and the goals of EuChemS. The EuChemS Historical Landmark Award aims to emphasize that chemistry is an integral part of the Cultural Heritage of Europe. We are looking forward to receiving all the excellent nominations.

More information: <https://euchems.eu>

2024 IUPAC-Solvay International Award for Young Chemists – Call for applicants



The IUPAC-SOLVAY International Award for Young Chemists is intended to encourage outstanding young research scientists at the beginning of their careers. The awards are given for the most outstanding Ph.D. theses in the general area of the chemical sciences, as described in a short essay. The award is generously sponsored by Solvay.

The supporting letters should comment on the your qualifications and accomplishments and the significance of your thesis work, and must also be submitted before 15 February 2024.

For this round, the awards will be presented at the 2025 IUPAC Congress, to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 11–18 July 2025. Each awardee will be invited to present a poster on his/her research and to participate in a plenary award session, and is invited to submit a review article for publication in Pure and Applied Chemistry.

More information: <https://iupac.org>

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members!



Period: 21.09.2023–30.10.2023

Emanuel Billeter, Lyngby - Luana Cu-villier, Neuchâtel - Thais Gazzzi, Basel - James Hemmer, Fribourg - Mattis Hilleke, Zurich - Gina Messerschmidt, Möriken - Hendrik Schmitt, Zurich - Milena Schuhmacher, Lausanne - Hans Jakob Wörner, Zurich.

HONORS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS

EuChemS-DCE career award 2023 given to Prof. em. Walter Giger, Eawag/ETH Zurich



At ICCE 2023, held in Venice, Italy, Prof. em. Dr. Walter Giger received the 2023 EuChemS DCE Lifetime Achievement Award from the European Chemical Society, Division of Chemistry and the Environment (EuChemS DCE).

As current DCE Chair Prof. Ioannis Katogiannis stated at the opening ceremony of the conference on 11 June 2023, Walter Giger has been a leading figure in environmental chemistry in Europe for many decades. He has built an impressive reputation as outstanding scientist and internationally renowned expert on all aspects of organic contaminant research and trace analysis in the environment. Based in Zurich, Switzerland, with leading positions at EAWAG (Chemistry Department; Division of Chemical Pollutants) and ETH (Professor for Environmental Chemistry), Walter Giger has held numerous prestigious positions at other institutes worldwide, notably in the USA and Australia. Walter Giger is best known for his seemingly endless and unbridled energy with which he stimulates and guides his colleagues and students.

Source: <https://euchems.eu>

Prof. Michael Grätzel, EPFL Lausanne honored for his outstanding contributions



Prof. Michael Grätzel at EPFL's School of Basic Sciences has been awarded several awards and honors for his outstanding contributions.

Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attayah award

The Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attayah International Foundation for Energy and

Sustainable Development is a non-profit organization established to preserve and build upon the forty years of Abdullah bin Hamad Al Attayah's service in the energy industry. The Foundation aims "to be an internationally respected independent think tank that is a thought leader focused on global energy and sustainable development topics."

The Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Attayah International Energy Awards are given annually to individuals "for an outstanding record of accomplishment in their sector over the whole of a career; men and women who have made an exceptional impact on the energy industry with distinct personal achievements for a consistent and prolonged period of engagement."

This year, the Award for Lifetime Achievement for the Advancement of Renewables has been awarded to Professor Michael Grätzel at EPFL, one of the most important researchers in chemistry of our time.

Honorary doctorate from City University of Hong Kong

The CityU official announcement reads: "Professor Michael Graetzel... will receive an Honorary Doctor of Science. He is a physical chemist who has pioneered research on energy and electron transfer reactions in mesoscopic systems, and their use to generate electricity and chemical fuels from sunlight."

About Prof. Michael Grätzel

Professor Grätzel is world-renowned for inventing the first dye-sensitive solar cell in 1991 with chemist Brian O'Reagan.

Just as plants use chlorophyll to turn sunlight into energy, the "Grätzel cells" use industrial dyes, pigments or quantum dots stimulated by sunlight to transmit an electrical charge. Within fifteen years of the original invention, Grätzel evolved the cells into an applied technology that is now being developed in universities and companies worldwide.

Having discovered molecular photovoltaics, Grätzel's research has focused on designing mesoscopic photosystems based on molecular light harvesters that convert light very efficiently to electricity. He is credited with moving the photovoltaic field beyond the principle of light absorption via diodes to the molecular level. Recently his research engendered a second revolution in photovoltaics prompting the advent of perovskite solar cells. In just a single decade, their power-conversion efficiency increased from 3% to over 26%, rivaling and even exceeding the performance of conventional photovoltaics.

Grätzel also applied his innovative mesoscopic design concept to enhance the power of lithium-ion batteries and to create photoelectrochemical cells that efficiently generate chemical fuels from sunlight, opening up a new path to provide future sources of renewable energy that can be stored.

Grätzel currently directs EPFL's Laboratory of Photonics and Interfaces within the Institute of Chemical Sciences and Engineering (ISIC). His 1,750 publications have received over 467,000 citations and have an h-index of 296. In 2019, Stanford University ranked Grätzel first of 100,000 top scientists across all fields. According to the Web of Science, he is presently the most highly cited chemist in the world.

Source: <https://actu.epfl.ch>

JOURNAL NEWS

Helvetica, Volume 106, Issue 10, September 2023



Reviews

The Contribution of Ruthenium in the Development of Metallomesogens
Bruno Therrien

Synthetic Procedures

A Streamlined, Safe and Sustainable Process for Gemlapodect
Serena Fantasia, Björn Bartels, Fritz

Bliss, Fritz Koch, Michelangelo Scalone, Daniel Spiess, Markus Steiner, Shaoning Wang, Kurt Püntener

Synthesis of (1R)-1-(4-Bromophenyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-amine Hydrochloride through Diastereoselective Trifluoromethylation of a Chiral Sulfinimine

Helene Wolleb, Francesco Bonina, Megan Udry, Stefan Reber, Nicole Blumer, Daniel Leuenberger, Gabriel Schäfer

Scalable, Chromatography-Free Synthesis of 2-(3-Bromophenyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazole through N-N Bond Forming Cyclization
Philipp Kohler, Ivan Schindelholz, Gabriel Schäfer

Research Articles

Development of Nitroreductase-Activatable Fluoroquinolone Prodrugs Exhibiting Attenuated Magnesium Ion Binding
Zhenxiang Zhao, Anuj K. Yadav, Yourong Weng, Jefferson Chan

Immobilized Rose Bengal as Photocatalyst for Metal-Free Thio-cyanation of Azaheterocycles under Continuous Flow Conditions
Eleonora Colombo, Monica Fiorenza Boselli, Laura Raimondi, Alessandra Puglisi, Sergio Rossi

Design, Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of Simplified Analogues of the Major Corn Strigolactones, Zealactone and Zeapyranolactone

Masahiko Yoshimura, Michael Dieckmann, Alexandre Lumbroso, Raymonde Fonné-Pfister, Claudio Screpanti, Katrin Hermann, Stefano Rendine, Pierre Quinodoz, Alain De Mesmaeker

Hydroxamic Acids as PARP-1 Inhibitors: Molecular Design and Anticancer Activity of Novel Phenanthridinones

Denys Bondar, Olga Bragina, Ji Young Lee, Ivan Semenyuta, Ivar Järving, Volodymyr Brovarets, Peter Wipf, Ivet Bahar, Yevgen Karpichev

Total Synthesis of Salviachinensine A Using a Matteson Homologation Approach

Merlin Kempf, Oliver Andler, Uli Kazmaier

Website: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15222675>

INDUSTRIAL NEWS

Source: www.chemanager-online.com

Sandoz Spin-off from Novartis to Start on October 4, 2023

September 25, 2023: Novartis today confirmed the plan to spin off 100% of its generic drugs arm Sandoz, with trading of the new company's shares as well as ADRs (American Depositary Receipts) to start on Oct. 4, 2023. The shareholders of Novartis had approved the spin-off at the extraordinary general meeting (EGM) on Sep. 15, 2023. In addition, key regulatory approvals have been obtained, including the approval by SIX Exchange Regulation for the listing of the Sandoz shares on the SIX Swiss Exchange, Novartis said. Key ratings agencies, Novartis mentioned in its respective press release, have confirmed Sandoz' credit rating will be investment grade following the spin-off, placing the company in a strong position among its peers. Sandoz has secured debt financing of \$3.75 billion (in various currencies) through a group of banks which will also support the company with a revolving credit facility of \$1.25 billion to serve as an undrawn backstop facility. The Spin-off will be completed via distribution of a dividend-in-kind by Novartis, which is expected to occur on Oct. 4, 2023. Each Novartis shareholder will receive one Sandoz share for every five Novartis shares and each Novartis ADR holder will receive one Sandoz ADR for every five Novartis ADRs. Novartis shareholders and ADR holders will receive a cash amount for any fractional interest. Completion of the planned spin-off is subject to satisfaction of certain conditions.

Merck Presents Fully Integrated mRNA Services

September 26, 2023: Merck is the first CTDMO (contract testing, development, and manufacturing organization) to offer an integrated service covering all critical phases of mRNA development, manufacturing, commercialization, and related products and testing services. The company today opened two new GMP-compliant manufacturing facilities for mRNA APIs in Darmstadt and Hamburg, Germany. "mRNA has emerged as the breakthrough technology of this century, providing great promise to not only treat, but potentially cure, a wide array of diseases such as cancer, heart disease, and muscular dystrophy," said Dirk Lange, Head of Life Science Services, Life Science business sector of Merck. "We are now the first CTDMO to streamline the entire mRNA process for our clients." The new sites are part of the company's ongoing € 1 billion investment to advance mRNA technologies and build its global mRNA network and capabilities. Key acquisitions of companies such as AmpTec and Exelead

also are included in the drive for mRNA advancement. The € 28 million investment the Darmstadt and Hamburg sites adds 75 new jobs, providing clients mRNA services from pre-clinical to commercial. This includes analytical development and biosafety testing for mRNA technologies. PCR-based technology for clinical and commercial mRNA manufacturing is also available. The integrated offering can decrease complexities through streamlined and harmonized processes, increasing speed-to-market. Merck has collaborated with researchers since the 1990s to ensure they have the critical components and raw materials needed to explore mRNA's potential. Merck's mRNA, custom and portfolio lipids, LNP and fill/finish CTDMO services are offered throughout its global network of sites in Schaffhausen, Switzerland; Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, Darmstadt, and Hamburg, Germany.

"As a researcher working on finding cures with mRNA technology and as a believer in its curative promise, collaborating with Merck has helped to advance my research in finding a cure by leveraging mRNA's promise for muscular dystrophy," said Simone Spuler, head of the Myology Lab at the Experimental and Clinical Research Center (ECRC), a joint institution of the Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine in the Helmholtz Association and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin. Merck's Millipore® CTDMO Services also provide pre-clinical through commercial capabilities for monoclonal antibodies and recombinant proteins (mAb and r-proteins), viral vectors (VV), small molecules and high-potent active pharmaceutical ingredients (HPAPI), antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) as well as integrated analytical development, biosafety testing, and product characterization. Millipore® CTDMO Services are part of the Life Science Services business unit, which together with the Process Solutions business is one of Merck's "Big 3" growth drivers. The company aims to increase its Group sales to approximately € 25 billion by 2025. Around 80% of the planned sales growth is to come from the "Big 3" businesses.

Lonza Increases Capacity for Antibody-Drug Conjugates at Visp, Switzerland

October 06, 2023: Swiss contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO) Lonza is extending a long-term collaboration with an unnamed major global biopharmaceutical partner. Under the agreement, the current dedicated bioconjugation capacity will be increased fourfold by adding two new bioconjugation suites for the commercial supply of antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) at Lonza's site in Visp, Switzerland. With the capacity increase, Lonza said that it will be able to provide its customer with highly potent payload, drug-linker, conjugation services, and commercial monoclonal antibody (mAb) manufacturing from a single site. The expansion will occupy 1500 m² of manufacturing space and will connect to key infrastructure supporting the containment of highly potent drug linkers and the handling of bioconjugates in a highly automated, high-throughput environment. Lonza expects the two dedicated manufacturing areas to comprise one of the largest bioconjugation facilities globally. The new suites are expected to be operational in 2026 and will generate approximately 180 jobs upon completion. Jean-Christophe Hyvert, Lonza's president Biologics, commented: "The expansion of this strategic collaboration further validates the concept of Ixos Solutions and demonstrates our dedication to supporting our partners with operational excellence, specialist expertise and flexible business models. The complete end-to-end ADC ecosystem at our Visp site eliminates supply chain complexities and supports all stages necessary for the manufacture of these highly potent therapies." ADCs are complex bioconjugates that are typically used for selective targeting of cancer cells. Their unique ability to decrease systemic side effects on healthy cells, while maintaining selective efficacy, brings high commercial and therapeutic potential and is transforming the treatment landscape

for cancer patients. ADCs consist of a potent cytotoxic agent, stable linker and a targeting mAb.

Lonza Announces New Mid-Term Guidance 2024–2028

October 17, 2023: At its Capital Markets Day in Visp, Switzerland, Lonza shared a detailed update on its strategic priorities and provided new Mid-Term Guidance for 2024 to 2028. Lonza outlined five strategic priorities to support the company's ongoing commitment to sustainable value creation:

- Continuous innovation to anticipate future customer needs
- Collaboration built on early customer partnerships and customized solutions
- Industry-leading service delivery, with a consistent focus on quality
- Operational excellence and a culture of continuous improvement
- Disciplined capital allocation strategy

The company has released its latest Mid-Term Guidance for the period 2024 to 2028, backed by the expansion of commercial growth assets and an ongoing commitment to operational excellence. The Mid-Term Guidance for 2028 comprises the following objectives: achieving a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) in sales of 11–13% in constant exchange rates (CER), maintaining a CORE EBITDA margin of 32–34%, and attaining a double-digit Return on Invested Capital (ROIC). Albert M. Baehny, Chairman of the Board of Directors and CEO ad interim said, "Lonza maintains a sharp focus on executing its strategy and growth projects to capture opportunities and maintain industry leadership. Today, we shared in detail how our investment program will deliver in the mid-term. Our disciplined capital allocation strategy will support customers in bringing treatments quickly and securely to the market, whilst securing sustainable long-term value for our shareholders, stakeholders and society."

Lonza has also increased its dividend payout range from 25–40% to a new range of 35–45%, showing confidence in its financial strength. Division strategic priorities in Lonza's biologics, small molecules, cell & gene, and capsule & health ingredient sectors were also shared at the Capital Markets Day. In these divisions, key strategic focuses encompass comprehensive lifecycle management, the enhancement of processes, establishing enduring customer partnerships, and distinguishing themselves through innovation and service offerings. In Q3 2023, Lonza showed strength in CDMO (contract development and manufacturing organization) and commercial demand. Biotech funding constraints affected Biologics, and Capsules & Health Ingredients faced challenges in the US market. Lonza confirmed its 2023 Outlook with higher sales growth and improved CORE EBITDA due to the Moderna mRNA contract cancellation fee. In 2024, business growth will be constrained by the higher 2023 baseline due to the Moderna loss and potential downsizing in the Kodiak Sciences business. Lonza anticipates a high twenties margin. More details on the 2024 Outlook will be shared by Lonza in January 2024.

Farsighted Outsourcing Solutions

Swiss Contract Manufacturer Frike Combines Tradition and Innovation

October 18, 2023: André Keller, CEO Frike Group, explains his strategic goals and market observations in the interview.

Frike Group is a traditional Swiss family business founded in 1944 by Fritz Keller. The group offers a versatile range of services in contract manufacturing in the pharmaceutical, cosmetics and chemical sectors at five production sites in Switzerland. The holding company is headquartered in Mönchaltorf in the canton of Zurich. The group of companies includes Frike Pharma, Frike Chemicals, Frike Cosmetics, Frike Aerosol and Glaropharm. De-

velopment and production is carried out exclusively for customers, which means that Frike remains a neutral and independent contract manufacturer that does not offer any private labels. Birgit Megges asked André Keller, CEO of the Frike Group, about his strategic goals and market observations.

CHEManager: *Mr. Keller, you have been managing Frike Group for more than 30 years in the second generation. Can you briefly summarize the group's core competencies?*

André Keller: We see ourselves as a specialized partner for outsourcing solutions for individual requirements. As an independent and financially sound family business with an entrepreneurial spirit, we have the advantage that decisions can be made and implemented quickly. This allows us to offer our partners a high degree of flexibility and reliability in deliveries. In order to grow together with our customers, we are also ready to make investments in machines, technologies and capacities. The necessary certifications and approvals such as Swiss Medic GMP, FDA, ECO Swiss, ISO 9001/22716 and SOP standards are available.

The competition in the market for contract manufacturers is fierce. How would you describe your survival strategy?

A. Keller: We have established partnerships with our customers, and we are working on them in order to start new projects from time to time. Especially as a contract manufacturer, you have to differentiate yourself in your offering. This means being able to accompany the customer from the start of the project. At the same time, there are always new regulatory requirements, and here it is important to act in good time together with our partners in order to be able to place the products on the market in accordance with the requirements.

How have the demands of your customers and partners on your services changed in recent years?

A. Keller: We are increasingly confronted with regulatory issues and further approvals are required here, such as from the Brazilian Health Regulatory Agency Anvisa, Saudi Arabia or also Korea. However, these also help us to differentiate ourselves in the market and to be able to offer customers added value.

How are you evolving your offering to continue to meet customer needs?

A. Keller: To this end, we have established a development department in order to be able to react to new requirements at an early stage together with our partners, for example with necessary recipe changes or by changing raw materials due to regulatory requirements. With this setup, we can accompany the customer from the beginning of the project. Starting with the development and input of our know-how in galenics, the production of small quantities for clinical trials, the upscaling into production and at the end the transfer into the commercial process.

The requirements in the pharmaceutical environment are particularly high. How can you support your customers in projects here?

A. Keller: Our approach has given us a great deal of expertise with regard to GMP requirements, and we have built up a special project tool in particular. Together with defined responsibilities, fast transfers to the Frike Group are possible.

How do you see the use of outsourcing services developing in Europe and worldwide over the next few years? Do you see any differences in individual product areas?

A. Keller: We continue to see very good opportunities for CDMO services, because the large pharmaceutical groups are also taking advantage of them and are repeatedly awarding outsourcing projects. The European market is interesting, also for pharmaceutical groups from other regions. With the relocation of production to the European region and the resulting proximity to the market, outsourcing is increasingly being considered. Supply chains are thus shortened and possible market entry opportunities can be realized.

You serve national and international customers. In the long term, are you considering buying or developing sites outside Switzerland?

A. Keller: We are always interested in opportunities here and have looked at them in the past. Our focus is definitely on overall growth, whether through organic or inorganic growth. Currently, all companies have to face numerous economic and geopolitical influences.

What challenges are you focusing on and how are you dealing with them?

A. Keller: The current geopolitical situation is, of course, great concern in our environment. The challenge is to filter out relevant information from the multitude of news and media. After all, this is the only way to identify what is important for one's own corporate goals. Acting comes before reacting here. At this point, it was and is important for us to maintain the supply chains and focus on energy costs in order to be able to continue to carry out our customers' productions and orders to the standard demanded of us.

André Keller, CEO, Frike Group, has been managing the Frike Group in the second generation for 43 years. The trained chemical laboratory technician initially focused on technical aspects in the company, followed by a commercial education. Keller was given responsibility at a very early stage and took on management tasks in the technical area at the beginning. At the same time, he pushed ahead with his management training, so that he was able to take over the management of the company at a young age.



SCS Academy

Swiss Chemical Society

InCompany Training

In collaboration with you we organize or develop InCompany Trainings and courses according to your ideas and needs. Benefit from the fact that we can

- design contents to company-specific requirements and wishes
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Experts are at your disposal for a personal need's assessment.

Place / Date

The training can be conducted at your location or as online training. Your employees do not have to pay for travel and accommodation!

The date will be arranged to fit best your needs.

Fees

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Target group/customers

Customers who have a need for specific education and further training measures to complete the offering of the SCS Academy and other training providers.

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