

CHIMIA REPORT/COMPANY NEWS

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Companies present themselves and their products

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Chemtogether: Connecting the chemical and pharmaceutical industries with talents from ETH Zurich

Chemtogether is an annual career fair at the Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences of ETH Zurich established in 2013 covering the chemical and pharmaceutical industries. As the largest fair of its kind in Switzerland, Chemtogether attracts not only the students, doctoral and post-doctoral students from ETH Zurich with a background in chemistry, chemical and process engineering, materials science, interdisciplinary and pharmaceutical sciences – it also draws the attention of students of other Swiss universities and even international visitors. For two consecutive days, companies present themselves and interact with the visitors at the ETH Hönggerberg Campus, the fair's venue and home university to around 40% of all chemists trained in Switzerland.

With 32 different companies attending the fair since its establishment, Chemtogether has grown significantly both in terms of company presence and visitor attendance. Organized by a multidisciplinary team of volunteering students and doctoral students, the number of exhibitors increased from 9 to 15 within three years as a consequence of the strong interest from the chemical industry. In 2018, the fair was extended to a total of 18 companies over two days, doubling company presence after its fifth iteration.

Over the years, not only the number of attending companies, but also the supporting programme has grown considerably. In addition to the pre-event in cooperation with ETH Career Center focusing on offering advice on application procedures, which was held already in 2013, the visitors were offered to have their picture taken professionally. In the following years, the attendants were also invited to enjoy an informal networking aperitif with company representatives at the end of the fair day. The supporting programme was also designed to support companies in catching the interest of fair visitors more easily and rendering conversations more involved. Short presentations held by company representatives, introduced in 2017, or a job board for posting open positions available since last year, constituted additional ways to engage

potential candidates at the fair, specifically those unfamiliar with a company.

For Chemtogether's seventh rendition in 2019, 18 companies will participate as exhibitors at the fair, including three new attractive companies which are participating for the first time. Furthermore, the supporting programme will be offering a new kick-off event taking place on November 4th, the eve of the career fair – a panel discussion with representatives of academia and industry discussing the future of chemists and chemistry in Switzerland – as well as optional CV checks for visitors on both fair days.

Organizationally, the student committee was extended to include students of the pharmaceutical sciences for the first time in order to cover all fields of study at the Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences. More opportunities for cooperation between the Swiss Chemical Society and Chemtogether are also planned to improve and extend both organization's efforts to connect students with employers.

Chemtogether 2019 will take place on November 5th and 6th on the Hönggerberg Campus of ETH Zurich. We would like to take this opportunity and invite you to visit us at this year's event!

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All companies participating in this year's rendition of Chemtogether.



Discussion between attendants and company representative at the booth.



Students attending a company presentation.



Pre-event preparing the students for the fair.