**NEWS**

(source CHEManager)

**Clariant** has completed the sale of its Energy Storage business line, announced in October 2014, for $75 million to Johnson Matthey. “The divestment of the Energy Storage business with its LFP technology is part of our focused portfolio management and realocating capital towards our core areas Care Chemicals, Catalysis and Energy, Natural Resources and Plastics and Coatings,” said CEO Hariolf Kottmann.

**Lonza Sees Solid Performance**

Lonza delivered expected core EBIT growth of 11% in local currencies and 9% in reported currency. The Swiss-based life science industry supplier said its “solid performance” stemmed from initiatives such as implemented growth projects, disciplined portfolio management and restructuring. Revenues grew by 3% in local, by 1.6% in reported currency to 3.6 billion Swiss francs. Lonza’s transformation from a product-focused to a market-driven business progressed well in 2014 and will continue in 2015, said CEO Richard Ridinger. “Our underlying business performance leads us to be confident we will grow sales and profits in 2015,” Ridinger added. However, due to the “recent and unexpected volatility in financial and currency markets,” the company will now re-evaluate its outlook. A qualitative update for Q1 2015 will be published on Apr. 28.

**Clariant With Higher Growth**

Clariant saw above-average growth again in 2014, despite a challenging economic environment, which it said was marked in particular by a continued lack of growth in Europe. The Swiss specialty chemicals group increased sales especially in high-margin markets and further improved profitability, said CEO Hariolf Kottmann. Sales from continuing operations rose 5% in local currencies to 6.1 billion Swiss francs, but only 1% in Swiss currency. EBITDA before exceptional items from continuing operations totaled 867 million Swiss francs, up 6% in local currencies. The EBITDA margin improved to 14.2%. For 2015, Kottmann expects continued sales growth, further margin improvement and a stronger cash flow, “despite an increasingly volatile economic environment.”

**Arrowhead Buys Novartis' RNAi R&D Portfolio**

California-based Arrowhead Research Corporation, a biopharmaceutical company developing targeted RNAi therapeutics, has acquired Novartis’ entire RNAi research and development portfolio and associated assets. The acquisition includes assignment of certain patents and patent applications owned or controlled by the Swiss drugmaker related to RNAi therapeutics, an exclusive license in the RNAi field to other patents and patent applications owned or controlled by Novartis, assignment of a third party license, three preclinical RNAi candidates, and other related assets. Under the terms of the agreement, Arrowhead has made an upfront payment of $7 million in cash and will provide an additional payment of $3 million in cash and $25 million in Arrowhead common stock within 30 days. The deal includes a pipeline of three candidates initiated by Novartis and for which Novartis has developed varying amounts of preclinical data. The Swiss company is also eligible to receive milestones and single digit royalties on sales of future products in connection with the agreement. Novartis has been working in the RNAi field for over a decade and its developments in proprietary oligonucleotide formatting and modifications “are some of the best we’ve seen,” said Arrowhead CEO Christopher Anzalone. “We anticipate this acquisition will provide us with substantially expanded freedom to operate, proprietary technology that appears to enhance the activity of RNAi triggers, access to non-delivery Ahnalam RNAi IP for 30 targets, and three programs that went through the rigorous Novartis vetting process,” Anzalone added.

**Novartis Gets Green Light to Buy GSK Cancer Drugs**

The U.S. Federal Trade Commission has granted Novartis permission to acquire the GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) oncology portfolio – with some strings attached. Canada’s competition authority also has agreed to allow the $16 billion deal announced in April 2014. In exchange for the US blessing, the Swiss drugmaker has agreed to divest assets related to its BRAF and MEK inhibitor drugs, now in development to treat melanoma, to Colorado-based Array BioPharma. The FTC’s green light applies to all parts of the envisioned complex transaction. Along with the cancer drug deal, GSK will acquire Novartis’ global vaccine business, apart from its flu vaccines. In the third component of the asset swap, the two companies would create a joint consumer healthcare business. The US authority said the divestment of the inhibitors was needed as Glaxo and Novartis are among only a few companies active in this business segment.

**CONFERENCES IN SWITZERLAND**

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<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
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<td>Labotec 2015</td>
<td>06.05.2015–07.05.2015</td>
<td>MCH Beaulieu Lausanne, Lausanne</td>
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<td>HPLC 2015</td>
<td>21.06.2015–25.06.2015</td>
<td>International Conference Center Geneva (CICG), Geneva</td>
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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 separations 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/

Swiss Food Science Meeting 2015
23.06.2015–24.06.2015
Université de Neuchâtel, Neuchâtel
The Swiss Food Science Meeting (SFSM) is a platform for the scientific exchange of food analysis as well as analysis of food contact materials and cosmetics. Scientists, such as chemists, toxicologists, food engineers who work in industry, food laboratories, universities, governmental bodies or food control authorities are invited to join the SFSM and to present their latest findings.
http://www.foodsciencemeeting.ch/joomla/

PolyColl 2015 by DPCI
03.07.2015
Adolphe Merkle Institute, University of Fribourg, Fribourg
PolyColl 2015: Annual Meeting of the Division of Polymers, Colloids and Interfaces (DPCI)
http://scg.ch/polycoll/2015

Qualitative Research: Beyond the ‘Fractured Future’
15.07.2015–17.07.2015
Conference Room, Neuchatel
The theme of this conference is drawn from the notion of a historical ‘moment’ in qualitative research – the ‘fractured future’.
http://www.metlab.ch/Conference/

SCS Fall Meeting 2015
04.09.2015
EPFL Lausanne, Lausanne
The Fall Meeting represents a major event for chemical research in Switzerland, offering a unique opportunity for graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and senior scientists from academia and industry.

SCS-Syngenta Symposium 2015
15.10.2015
Syngenta Research Campus, Stein (AG)
‘Chirality – Upsides for Chemical Innovation’
http://scg.ch/syngentasymposium/2015

The Expanding Toolbox of Medicinal Chemistry
16.10.2015
Palais des Congrès Dijon-Bourgogne, Dijon
‘From Chemical Biology to Clinical Applications’ Jointly organised by the SCT and the DMCCB of the Swiss Chemical Society.
http://scg.ch/etmc/2015

08.05.2015
Prof. Michael R. Wasielewski, Northwestern University, Evanston, USA
‘Integrated Molecular Systems for Artificial Photosynthesis’
SCS Lectureship

20.05.2015
Prof. Kazuya Kikuchi, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan
‘Design Strategy of Molecular Imaging Probes which Convert Biological Signals to Chemical Output’
SCS Lectureship

Polyfunctional Organometallics for Organic Synthesis’
Heilbronner-Hückel Vorlesung

01.05.15–31.05.2015

University Basel, Pharmazeutische Wissenschaften
Lecture Hall 1, Pharmazentrum

06.05.2015
Prof. Dr. Robert Fürst, Institut für Pharmazeutische Biologie, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, D
‘Biogenic vascular disrupting agents – a new perspective in cancer therapy?’

27.05 2015
Prof. Dr. Marc Pfister, Pädiatrische Pharmakologie, Universität-Kinderklinik beider Basel, Basel
‘Experiments in virtual patients: challenges and opportunities’

University Basel, Physical Chemistry
Kleiner Hörsaal, Raum 4.04., 2. Stock, Physikalische Chemie, Departement Chemie, Universität Basel

13.05.2015
Prof. Dr. Ali Alavi, Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge, UK
‘Quantum Monte Carlo Approach to the Full CI Problem’

20.05.2015
Prof. Dr. Martin Malmsten, Department of Pharmacy, Uppsala Universität, Sweden
‘Interactions of Antimicrobial Peptides with Bacterial Membranes and Membrane Components’

27.05.2015
Prof. Dr. Abhay Pandit, NFB, Biosciences Research Building, National University of Ireland, Galway
‘Nature and Host Inspired Biomaterials Systems’

University Bern, Organische und Bioorganische Chemie
Hörsaal EG 16, DCB

05.05.2015
Prof. Dr. Paul Knochel, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, D
‘Chemoselective Reactions with Polyfunctional Organometallics’

06.05.2015
Prof. Michael R. Wasielewski, Northwestern University, Evanston, USA
‘Photo-initiated Charge Transport in Self assembled Organic Nanostructures’

8.05.2015
Prof. Dr. Kazuya Kikuchi, Osaka University, Japan
‘Design Strategy of Molecular Imaging Probes’
Lecture Hall
U113 which Convert Biological Signals to Chemical Output

20.05.2015 17.15 h
Dr. Wolfgang Jahnke, Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research, Basel
‘Contributions of Structural Biology to Drug Discovery’

University of Fribourg
Main auditorium, Chemistry department

05.05.2015 17.15 h
Prof. Michael R. Wasielewski, Northwestern University, Evanston, USA
‘Photo-initiated Charge Transport in Self-assembled Organic Nanostructures’

19.05.2015 17.15 h
Prof. Barbara Rothen-Rutishauser, Adolphe Merkle Institute, Fribourg
Title to be announced

26.05.2015 17.15 h
Prof. Cyrille Train, CNRS/Université Joseph Fourier, Grenoble, France
‘Why should organic radicals, magnetism and chirality meet?’

Université Genève; Société Chimique de Genève
Auditoire A-100

07.05.2015 16.30 h
Prof. Andreas Marx, Lehrstuhl für Organische Chemie / Zelluläre Chemie, Fachbereich Chemie, Univ. Konstanz, D
‘Reading the Genome beyond Watson Crick’

Université Genève, Chimie organique
Auditoire A-100

04.05.2015 16.30 h
Prof. Michael R. Wasielewski, Northwestern University, Evanston, USA
‘Photo-initiated Charge Transport in Self-assembled Organic Nanostructures’

22.05.2015 16.30 h
Prof. Kazuya Kikuchi, Laboratory of Chemical Biology, Osaka University, Japan
Auditoire A-150
‘Design Strategy of Molecular Imaging Probes which Convert Biological Signals to Chemical Output’

28.05.2015 16.30 h
Dr Nicolas Blanchard, Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Chimie, Université de Haute-Alsace, Mulhouse, France
‘Problems and Detours in the Chemical Synthesis of Mycolactone Analogs’

EPFL Lausanne, Institut des Sciences et Ingénierie Chimiques

06.05.2015 17.15 h
Salle BCH 2218
‘Chemoselective Reactions with Polyfunctional Organometallics’
Heilbroner-Hückel Lecture and Organic Chemistry Seminars

07.05.2015 10.00 h
Prof. Michael R. Wasielewski, Northwestern University, Evanston, USA
‘Integrated Molecular Systems for Artificial Photosynthesis’

21.05.2015 17.30 h
Salle BCH 2218
‘Design Strategy of Molecular Imaging Probes which Convert Biological Signals to Chemical Output’

ETH Zürich, Chemie- und Bioingenieurwissenschaften
HCI D 2, ETH Hönggerberg

08.05.2015 10.30 h
Louise Camenzuli, Institute for Chemical and Bioengineering, ETH Zurich
‘Using Environmental Fate Models to Investigate the Influence of the Soil Compartment on Historical and Ongoing Emissions of Pesticides’

22.05.2015 10.30 h
Tenzing Gyalpo, Institute for Chemical and Bioengineering, ETH Zurich
‘Uptake, Body Burden, and Elimination of Persistent Organic Pollutants in Humans: Insights Gained from Population Pharmacokinetic Modeling and Biomonitoring Data’

ETH Zürich, Laboratorium für Organische Chemie
HCI J 3, ETH Hönggerberg

04.05.2015 16.00 h
Prof. Dr. Paul Knochel, Chemistry Department, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, d
‘Chemoselective Reactions with Polyfunctional Organometallics’
Heilbroner-Hückel Lecture Series (SCS/GDCh)

11.05.2015 16.00 h
Prof. Peter Dorrestein, Institute for Metabolomics Medicine, University of California, San Diego, USA
‘Navigating molecular space, global solutions through the development of social networks for molecular analysis’

ETH Zürich, Laboratorium für Physikalische Chemie

05.05.2015 17.15 h
Audimax HG F 30
‘Von Molekularodynamik zu Cheminformatik und zurück’
Einführungsvorlesung

12.05.2015 16.45 h
 HCI J 3
‘Studies of electronic dynamics by high-harmonic spectroscopy’

26.05.2015 16.45 h
 HCI J 3
‘Understanding the conformational behaviour of intrinsically disordered proteins and their functional, dynamic complexes using NMR spectroscopy’
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<td>17.00 h</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Chris Abell, University of Cambridge, UK</td>
<td>‘Fragment-based approaches in chemical biology’</td>
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<td>12.05.2015</td>
<td>17.00 h</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Pradip K. Mascharak, University of California, Santa Cruz, USA</td>
<td>‘Designed Photoactive Metal Nitrosyls for Site-specific NO Delivery’</td>
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<td>‘Design Strategy of Molecular Imaging Probes which Convert Biological Signals to Chemical Output’</td>
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Post-Doc Day Life Sciences 2015

The conference is supported by plenary speakers in the field of academia, industry, scientific journals and fund acquisition. This conference will strengthen the scientific interaction between all participants and provides a platform for interdisciplinary communication in the different fields of Life Sciences.

http://www.chem.uzh.ch/static/postdocday2015/home.html

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

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Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, EPFL
CH-1015 Lausanne

Fri, 4 September 2015, 09.00 – 18.30

**Fall Meeting 2015**

- Sandmeyer Award lecture 2015
- KGF-SCS Industrial Science Award lectures 2015
- Grammaticakis-Neumann Award lecture 2015
- 8 parallel sessions incl. invited lectures and 8 poster sessions
- Best oral and best poster presentation awards

http://scg.ch/fallmeeting/2015/

**Call for Contributions**

Opened from February 25 to May 12, 2015

http://chemistrycongresses.ch/

Swiss Chemical Society
Haus der Akademien
Laupenstrasse 7, Postfach
3001 Bern

Hosted by EPFL
Institute of Chemical Sciences and Engineering

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[Image and text regarding Fall Meeting 2015 details]