

Preface (1)[†]

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CARBON DIOXIDE UTILIZATION (ICCDU V), 5–10 SEPTEMBER 1999, KARLSRUHE, GERMANY

The Fifth International Conference on Carbon Dioxide Utilization (ICCDU V) was held at the Karlsruhe Congress and Exhibition Center in Karlsruhe, Germany on 5–10 September 1999. About 160 international experts from all over the world participated in this Conference, which covered a broad variety of topics from biochemical to technical aspects of carbon dioxide. In each major topic at least one plenary lecture was given by an expert in the field. The headings of the contributions presented at the Conference and published were as follows:

Catalytic hydrogenation

Reverse shift reaction and CO₂ reforming of alkanes

Fixation of CO₂ on carbon substrates

Electrochemical and photochemical CO₂ conversions

Biological/geological fixation of CO₂

Reaction kinetics, mechanisms and modeling

Technological aspects

Energetic aspects

At the beginning of the Conference, a microsymposium on global aspects of carbon dioxide was organized with international members of different official institutions engaged in CO₂ emission and mitigation, such as the Department of Energy (DOE) and the German Ministry of the Environment, and industrial organizations, such as ABB.

The broad variety of the field and the high intensity of research reflected in the presentations show clearly that the use of carbon dioxide has already become an independent research objective aimed at the saving of resources or energy and the substitution of hazardous chemicals by safer ones in industrial processes. The objectives of the research concentrate on the use of carbon dioxide in chemical syntheses, its use as a solvent for extraction processes and its conversion to energy products. The biological fixation of carbon dioxide and

its storage and influence on the chemistry of the oceans, as the two main processes in nature where CO₂ is involved, were important subjects of the Conference as well.

The goal of the biennial International Conference on Carbon Dioxide Utilization is to unify the potentials of powerful researchers in these fields, to increase the knowledge in the community by presentations and to intensify cooperation by personal contacts. Consequently, ICCDU Conferences have experienced a consistently increasing importance: we believe that these aims are of general interest for all researchers and we express our hope that ICCDU VI will be of still-growing success. ICCDU VI will be held on 9–14 September 2001, in Breckenridge, Colorado, USA. For further information please contact:

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We wish to thank cordially all the participants of the ICCDU V held at Karlsruhe, Germany, and especially those who have participated in these special issues of *Applied Organometallic Chemistry*, helping to present the research topics of this Conference to the international scientific community. Furthermore, we are very grateful for some financial support from companies and express our hope that this support will continue in the future.

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[†]Further papers from ICCDU V will be published in issue 2 of volume 15, the February 2001 issue of *Applied Organometallic Chemistry*.