

Foreword

This Japan–EC joint workshop on the Frontiers of Catalytic Science and Technology for Energy Environment and Risks Prevention was held in Lyon-Villeurbanne from 26 to 28 April 1995. It was the second meeting between Japanese and European Community academic and industrial researchers. The first workshop took place from 2 to 4 December 1991 in Tokyo.

JECAT'95 was held under the auspices of several organizations.

From the European side:

- European Federation of Catalysis Societies (EF-CATS)/EMRS,
- Centre Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique,
- European Commission and Council of Europe,
- Ministry of the Foreign Office,
- Conseil Général du Rhône,
- Région Rhône-Alpes.

From the Japanese side:

- Catalysis Society of Japan (CATSJ),
- Agency for Industrial Science and Technology, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (AIST-MITI),
- New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO),
- Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE),
- Petroleum Energy Center (PEC).

The use of catalysts will definitely contribute to the production of clean fuels, catalytic combustion without pollutant emission, removal of NO_x from exhaust gases, fixation and use of CO_2 and so forth. The aim of this second workshop was to update the knowledge in these fields of environmental catalysis

and to determine the main directions of research for the next century. Global environmental problems as well as specific aspects of European and Japanese environmental priorities were tackled.

145 people attended the workshop. Of the different countries, Japan was, with 55 Japanese participants, the best represented (i.e. 38% of the participants). Scientists from eleven EC countries were present, and in addition representatives of 4 countries outside of the EC were also present.

As far as the participation of industrial researchers was concerned, 41 scientists from private or public companies participated in the workshop (ca. 28%): 24 from EC and 17 from Japan.

JECAT'95 was a three-day meeting, during which the latest approaches of five important fields in environmental catalysis were tackled:

Exhaust gas treatment

- Automotive emissions
- Fixed plants emissions

Clean fuels production

- Upgrading of refinery products
- Synthetic fuels derived from organic matter

Water treatment

CO_2 fixation and use

Catalytic combustion of hydrocarbons

- Energy production
- Volatile organic compounds removal

In addition, a Round Table concerning the 'Substitution of liquid acids by solid catalysts' was also organized.

Each section was introduced by a plenary lecture and/or a keynote lecture, followed by oral communications (2 to 8). In addition, two poster sessions were

organized. On the whole, 39 oral contributions and 54 posters were presented.

The Guest Editors
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