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# Preface

While the introduction of totally clean processes is the long-term objective of basic and applied research, the reality is that in many situations the only feasible way to reduce pollution is with end-of-pipe technologies. The papers comprising this special issue of Catalysis Today were presented orally in the End-of-Pipe Technology Symposium at the Europacat V Conference in Limerick, Ireland, from 2 to 7 September 2001. This selection of papers is not meant to be completely comprehensive since they can only reflect the interests of the participants at this meeting rather than a balanced view of the whole subject of pollution control. Nevertheless, the papers included in this special issue cover some of the main topics of environmental catalysis such as $NO_x$ reduction, $NO_x$ storage–reduction, $NH_3$, and VOC removal. Both applied and fundamental aspects are described, and these provide a "snapshot" of the state-of-the-art at the time of this meeting. Thanks to the efforts of the authors, and especially the paper reviewers, this special issue has been produced in record time and so it provides an up-to-date perspective on this important subject.

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