



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Catalysis Today

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/cattod

Preface

Interest in different aspects of environmental catalysis has been steadily growing for years in academic and industrial research; an integral part of the AWPA Symposium 2007 reflected these very same trends.

The symposium was a continuation of the annual seminars, which have been organised by the Jagiellonian University and the Marie Curie-Skłodowska University since 1994. The first two seminars were devoted to NO_x removal from off-gases of stationary and mobile sources of emission (DENOX). DESONOX, VOC and N₂O removal were included in the next seminars. Water remediation and particulate matter oxidation were added to the scope of the seminar in the year 2006.

This year the organisers – Faculties of Chemistry at the Jagiellonian University and the Marie Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin and the Faculty of Fuels and Energy of AGH-University of Science and Technology in Krakow – invited the research community to discuss the following topics:

- removal of nitrogen oxides: NO_x and N₂O from outgases of stationary sources,
- removal of NO_x and particulate matter from diesel exhaust gases,
- abatement of VOC, and
- water remediation.

23 oral and 78 poster presentations covering all these subjects formed the mainstream of the conference.

Internationally renowned researchers were invited to give an overview of various important areas:

- Prof. J. Ross, “The use of copper catalysts for the selective reduction of NO with methanol”.
- Prof. B. Nieuwenhuys, “The golden age of environmental catalysis”.
- Prof. T. Zhang, “Reduction of NO with CO over Ir-C xerogels”.
- Prof. V. Tomašić, “Photocatalytic oxidation of toluene in the gas phase: modelling of annular photocatalytic reactor”.

- Dr. D. Su, “How cytotoxic are the soot particles of low-emission diesel engines?”.

The organisers hope that this conference will promote further discussion on the important issues of environmental protection and lead to closer cooperation of researchers interested in this field.

Special thanks are due to Dr. Paweł Kornelak for the excellent coorganisation of the Symposium and for the technical work in preparation of this issue.

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Available online 3 July 2008