

The European Commission initiates a Thematic Research Action (TRA) on Polymer Materials:

The TRA on Polymer Materials is a thematic network established on the initiative of the European Commission within the Research and Technology Development (RTD) Programme on Industrial Materials Technologies. The general aim of this network is to establish an interface related RTD projects on polymer materials supported by the EU. The network is divided into four clusters: I. Polymer chemistry and engineering; II. Polymers in surface treatment and adhesion; III. Polymer composites; and IV. Recycling of polymers.

At this moment, there are 9 different groups: *modelling of polymers, recycling of polymer materials, life cycle assessment, synthesis, characterisation of polymers, rubbers, sustainable development, polymers in applications, and exploitation of results.*

Information: <http://www.tra-pm.org>.

Corien Struijk
Phone: +31-172 51 89 44
E-mail: tra@e3t.nl

Silica 2001

September 2–5, 2001
Mulhouse, France

The “Silica’98” Conference was held in Mulhouse-France in September 1998. Following the success of that meeting and the persistent encouragement of all the 350 participants from 30 foreign countries.

SILICA 2001 will be a unique and worldwide Conference entirely devoted to all the aspects of silica science and technology. Emphasis will be put on the following topics:

- Special synthesis of tailored structure, controlled pore size silica, hybrid materials ...
- Nano-silica particles, synthesis, characteristics and uses ...
- In-situ formation of silica: silica preparation in special media, polymer matrices ...
- Silica films and coating membranes
- Silica surfaces and Interfaces
- Computer modeling and simulation

- Silica characterization: Sizing, Surface Charge, Density, Porosity, Surface Area, Fractality
- Colloidal behavior of silica and silica dispersions in water and organic media ...
- Silica surface modification and control ...
- Silica applications, in tooth pastes, cement, as catalyst or chromatography support ...
- Silica in polymers (tires) and resins
- Silica in electronics
- Silica in environment and health related problems
- Economical and prospective aspects

Knowing your interest for silica, we certainly would appreciate receiving rapidly your comments and suggestions concerning our tentative topic list. So please keep this date in mind, complete and send back the attached form in order to receive further information.

B. Haidar (E-mail: B.Haidar@univ-mulhouse.fr)

www.univ-mulhouse.fr/~icsi/congres/silica/silica.html

AMPHIPHILIC POLYMERS AND GELS

January 7–12, 2001
Sintra, Portugal

The purpose of the Symposium is to review the state of the art of fundamental and applied aspects of amphiphilic polymers and gels, and to bring together academic and industrial workers in fruitful discussions.

The Co-Chairs of the Organizing Committee are Lennart Piculell and Björn Lindman of Lund University, Sweden, and D. Fennell Evans of the University of Minnesota, USA.

Information: <http://www.engfnd.org/engfnd/lad.html>.

The United Engineering Foundation is located at Three Park Avenue, 27th Floor, New York, NY 10016-5902; Tel: 212-591-7836, Fax: 212-591-7441, E-mail: engfnd@aol.com, WWW: www.engfnd.org.

Paul A. Parisi, PE
F. ASCE

ASCE Representative to the UEF Conferences Committee