
CHRONICLE

Il'ya Iosifovich Moiseev (On the Occasion of His 75th Birthday)

On March 15, 2004, Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Head of the Laboratory of Metal-Complex Catalysis at the Kurnakov Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and Editor-in-Chief of *Kinetics and Catalysis*, Professor Il'ya Iosifovich Moiseev celebrated his 75th birthday.

Moiseev is an internationally recognized expert in physical and coordination chemistry, one of the pioneers in catalysis by metal complexes. He carries out research in the field of homogeneous catalysis, the coordination chemistry of transition metals, and reaction mechanisms in a liquid phase. His name is associated with pioneering studies in the catalysis of liquid-phase reactions by transition metal compounds.

Moiseev was the first to synthesize a number of radically new coordination compounds: π -allyl complexes, cluster compounds, and giant clusters of palladium. He developed new principles of constructing catalytic systems, which are now widely used worldwide, and designed highly efficient catalysts for the oxidative conversions of hydrocarbons, discovered selective oxidation reactions of alkenes and alkanes, low-temperature dehydration of alcohols via the carbene mechanism, oxidative dehydration of carboxylic acids, and the homogeneous catalytic transformation of hydrogen peroxide into ozone. He carried out classical kinetic and mechanistic studies of commercially important catalytic reactions of acetylene hydration, as well as oxidation, epoxidation, and the isomerization of olefins.

The results of Moiseev's studies formed the groundwork for the modern industrial method of vinyl acetate and acetaldehyde syntheses by ethylene oxidation and the synthesis of formic acid from CO and water. He proposed the environmentally friendly synthesis of 2-ethylanthraquinone, a key component of the catalytic system in the synthesis of hydrogen peroxide from H₂ and oxygen.

Moiseev is the author of more than 450 research papers, including the fundamental monographs *π -Complexes of Palladium in Liquid-Phase Oxidation of Olefins and Inhibition of Chain Oxidation by Metal Complexes*, and 80 inventor's certificates and patents. He



created a scientific school, which educated and brought up many highly qualified specialists. He supervised dozens of candidates and doctors of science.

Moiseev works hard on the organization of science. He is the Vice President of the Mendeleev Russian Chemical Society and the supervisor of the Institute of Basic Problems of Natural Gas at the Gubkin Russian University of Oil and Gas.

Moiseev actively works as a member of leading Russian and international journals. He is a Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *Kinetika i Kataliz* (Kinetics and Catalysis), and a member of the editorial boards of *Doklady Akademii Nauk* (Doklady Chemistry), *Uspekhi Khimii* (Russian Chemistry Reviews), *Mendeleev Communications*, *Journal of Molecular Catalysis, Catalysis Letters, Topics in Catalysis, Chemical Technology*, and

Central European Journal of Chemistry. He is a member of the International Council of International Symposia on Homogeneous Catalysis and International Conferences on Organometallic Chemistry.

Moiseev's achievements have been recognized by the science community the world over. He is a member of Academia Europaea (London), Academia Scientiarum et Artium Europaea (Vienna), and Academy of Sciences, Arts and Literature (Paris). He delivers plenary lectures at international, All-Union, and All-Rus-

sian conferences on catalysis, coordination chemistry, the chemistry of organoelement compounds, petrochemistry, and carbine chemistry. He was awarded the State Award of the Russian Federation, Karpinsky Prize, and the Triumph Prize.

The editorial board of *Kinetics and Catalysis* expresses cordial congratulations to Il'ya Iosifovich and wishes him good health and further professional success.