

The first “International Conference on the Reaction Engineering of Polyolefins (INCOREP)” was held in Montreal, QC, Canada from June 22–27, 2008. It gathered almost 100 people from 15 different countries, with 60% of the participants coming from the polyolefin manufacturing and processing industry.

We started this conference series in 2000 with the objective of creating an internationally recognized technical conference for the discussion of the reaction engineering aspects of polyolefin production. The initial title of these meetings was ECOREP (the ‘E’ standing for European), and the first 3 conferences were held in Lyon, France in 2000, 2002 and 2005. We decided on the name change to INCOREP in 2008 because the conference series has never been an exclusive European even, but truly an international meeting gathering academic and industrial researchers from all over the world.

As in the past ECOREP conferences, we were very pleased with the quality and scope of the presentations given at INCOREP. A total of 30 talks and 35 poster presentations were given on topics related to the major conference themes of New Processes and Catalysts, Process Monitoring, Advanced Polyolefinic

Materials, Microscale Modelling, and Reactor and Process Design.

It is a pleasure to have some of these oral and poster presentations translated into articles in this issue of Macromolecular Symposia. On behalf of the INCOREP organizers, we would like to thank all the authors for taking the time to prepare such an exceptional collection of papers on different aspects of polyolefin reaction engineering.

The success of this INCOREP conference supports our original feeling that such an event is indeed needed by the community of scientists and engineers working on polyolefin processes in both academia and industry. We are currently planning the 2nd edition of INCOREP, which should take place in the Middle East in the second half of 2011. Readers interested in being included in the conference’s mailing list are welcome to send their requests to info@incorep.org, and visit either www.incorep.org or www.polyolefins.org for updates on the conference and related additional activities on polyolefin reaction engineering.

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