



Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals

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Foreword

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Foreword

The present issue of *Molecular Crystals Liquid Crystals* is devoted to the proceedings of the 8th National meeting of the Italian Liquid Crystal Society (SICL) held in Acitrezza (Italy) from June 4 to June 7 2008.

The meeting was the usual biennial meeting of SICL. It is the traditional Italian site for presentation of the wide spectrum of scientific activities in the field of liquid crystals spanning from technological application to bio-membrane studies, from synthesis of new materials to structural properties, from interfacial phenomena to optical properties, from confined geometries to advanced photonic applications. As usual it gathers about 80 chemists, physicists and engineers working in this field, providing a forum for young scientists who are encouraged to present their work and interact with selected experts in the field.

Some of the original contributions presented at the meeting were submitted for the Proceedings and refereed according to the standard procedure of this Journal. The contributions cover a wide range of aspects of liquid crystal research, from synthesis and physico-chemical characterization to novel technological applications, comprising both experimental and theoretical investigations.

The successful organization of the meetings was only possible thanks to the help of many people and we would like to mention in particular the members of the Scientific Committee: A. d'Alessandro, G. Galli, C. La Rosa, D. Pucci, A. Raudino, C. Versace, E. Virga and D. Wiersma. Moreover M. Pannuzzo, M. Sciacca and V. Carbone were essential for the local organization in Acitrezza.

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