

## FOREWORD

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## EFCE Working Party on Polymer Reaction Engineering

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The international Polymer Reaction Engineering Symposium of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE) took place October 20–22, 2000 at the EPFL in Lausanne. It should be noted that it is the first time that this international event occurred in Switzerland. The meeting was organized by the Polymer Reaction Engineering (PRE) group of the LGRC of the EPFL chemistry department, with financial sponsorship of DuPont Lycra® of Dupont de Nemours International.

Over sixty European researchers, coming from 12 industries and 24 universities, thus had the opportunity to present their results and to exchange ideas at work sessions articulated around the following topics:

- Reactive processing
- New reactors and unusual reactions conditions
- Molecular dynamics on the way to end use properties
- Open session

Each session was introduced by a key lecture and followed by specific poster sessions. Some of the work presented is published in this special issue of CHIMIA.

The purpose of this symposium was also to draw-up guidelines for future research in the field of polymer reaction engineering and to coordinate the use of research resources in Europe.



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