SCS Swiss Chemical Society

Community News

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SWISS CHEMICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Job Opportunities of SCS Partner Companies

Are you looking for an internship or a new challenge in the chemical or pharmaceutical industry? – Our SCS Partnership Companies offer a variety of opportunities for your next career step. We have established a new page on the SCS website to provide you some information about the job opportunities of our SCS Partnership Companies (https://scg.ch/jobs). A click on the logos will redirect you to the available job offers on the companies' websites. We encourage you to check regularly for job listings, as global and regional positions are available at multiples times throughout the year.
More information: *scg.ch/jobs*

EuChemS releases 2022 Yearbook

The 2022 EuChemS Yearbook was released in early March. It contains all the activities of EuChemS over the course of the last year.

EuChemS was involved in numerous scientific and science-policy related undertakings in 2022. The yearbook provides descriptions of policy related advisory groups and events of EuChemS – including, but not limited to stakeholder group participations and policy workshops -, as well as its efforts to strengthen the European chemistry community – most notably the 8th EuChemS Chemistry Congress in Lisbon. It also lists EuChemS Science Communication initiatives and data, as well as information on the constitution of the 2022 Executive board, Divisions, Member Societies and secretariat.

The production of the yearbook was coordinated by the EuChemS Secretariat, but many more members of EuChemS contributed to ensuring the high quality and accuracy of the publication.
Source: euchems.eu

Call for Nominations: Prix Média 2023

The Prix Média is endowed with CHF 10,000 and stands for excellence in science journalism. With this award, the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences recognize the important role of journalists in the digital age with algorithms, fake news and bots. Media professionals elaborate complex topics, bundle facts, question and report their findings for a broad audience. In the context of complex contemporary issues such as the Corona pandemic and climate change, media professionals with a sound scientific background play an increasingly important role for society.

Terms and Conditions
Journalists themselves or third parties may submit contributions. All contributions must have been published in Switzerland in one of the four national languages. Only one contribution may be submitted per request for submissions, and the designated form must be used. The deadline for submitting the application must be observed. All media channels are admitted. Award recipients must wait two years before submitting further work. All entries must adhere to the Swiss Press Council's code of conduct.
Deadline for nominations is May 15, 2023.
More information: *prixmedia.ch*

SATW Panorama – Jahresrückblick 2022

Die SATW macht sich für eine neue Generation qualifizierter Fachpersonen im Namen des technologischen Fortschritts stark, bringt sich in die gesellschaftliche und wirtschaftliche Entwicklung der Schweiz ein und trägt so zum Fortschritt und zur Verfügbarkeit von Technologien bei. In ihrem Engagement verliert die SATW die Auswirkungen auf die Gesellschaft und die Umwelt nicht aus den Augen.
More information: *jahresbericht.satw.ch*

Newly elected individual SATW members 2023

This year, the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences SATW has added twelve new Full Members to its network. Each possesses an impressive track record in the engineering sciences.

Prof. Roger Abächerli has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the development of medtech products and his contributions to research and teaching in this field.

Christoph Aeschlimann has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his remarkable contributions as a visionary engineer and strategist in the communication systems field.

Prof. Gion Caminada has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his fundamental contributions to architecture in teaching, practice and research. His work is characterised by the vision of bringing culture and nature into harmony and promoting a sustainable housing policy.

Prof. Christian Franck has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his outstanding achievements in

teaching and research, particularly regarding the use of new climate-friendly insulating gases in electrical energy technology.

Prof. Junguo Liu has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his extraordinary contributions to linking climate scenarios with water risk assessment and the necessary hydraulic engineering measures.

Prof. Tobias J. Kippenberg has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his pioneering research in quantum optomechanics, the development of micro-resonator-based optical frequency combs and his contribution as the co-creator of photonic integrated circuit technology.

Prof. Adrian Perrig has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his pioneering research and contributions to computer and network security, particularly the development and implementation of the new high-security SCION internet.

Prof. Robert Riener has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his outstanding achievements in research, development and clinical evaluation pertaining to rehabilitation robots and assistive technologies suitable for everyday use, particularly via the Cybathlon platform, which he initiated.

Prof. Christian Rüegg has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the field of solid-state physics, as well as in the further development and instrumentation of neutron sources.

Prof. Olga Sorkine-Hornung has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of her outstanding contributions to research and development in computer graphics, geometric modelling, digital geometry processing, computer animation and visual computing.

Prof. Luc Thévenaz has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of his pioneering role in the development of fibre-optic technologies and new solutions for photonics-based sensors.

Prof. Tanja Zimmermann has been appointed a Full Member of SATW in recognition of her innovative work on nanocellulose and the expansion of the practical applications of wood-based materials.

Source: satw.ch

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members!

Period: 01.03.2023–28.03.2023

Rüveyda Bal, Pratteln - Alexandre Bianchi, Fribourg - Maheshreddy Burra, Guntur (IN) - Virginia Carnevali, Lausanne - Fabio Casanova, Geneva - Jason Denizot, St. Sulpice - Wolfram Feuerstein, Luzern - Alexander Forster, Bern - Luca Grillo, Fribourg - Hana Janekova, Zurich - Seongmin Jeon, Lausanne - Eva Kirchner, Visp - Kangwei Li, Basel - Rebecca Mattison, Frankfurt am Main (D) - Vladislav Mints, Luzern - Padmabati Mondal, Tirupati (IN) - Raphael Oeschger, Bern - Marta Oggioni, Fribourg - Alexandre Perera, Zurich - Jocelyn Pradegan, Fribourg - Stefan Reimann, Dübendorf - Julian Resch, Basel - Daniel Uwe Richter, Zurich - Helena Solé Àvila, Lausanne - Julian Stropp, Zurich - Zeynep Talip , Villigen - Michelle Worek, Zurich - Dimei Wu, Redwood City (US) - Daryl Yee, Lausanne - Nick Zahnd, Renens VD.

HONORS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS

ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry Award in Spectrochemical Analysis 2023 to Renato Zenobi, ETH Zurich

Prof. Renato Zenobi, Professor of Analytical Chemistry at the Organic Chemistry Laboratory at ETH Zurich, is the recipient of the 2023 ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry Award in Spectrochemical Analysis. The award is given to researchers who are advancing the fields of spectrochemical analysis and optical spectrometry. The award is handed over at the Fall ACS (American Chemical Society) Meeting in San Francisco. Zenobi's research areas include laser- based analytical chemistry, electrospray and laser- assisted mass spectrometry, ambient mass spectrometry, and near- field optical microscopy and spectroscopy. He has made important contributions to the understanding of the ion formation mechanism in matrix- assisted laser desorption/ionization (MALDI) mass spectrometry, and to ambient ionization methods. He is well known for the development of analytical tools for the nanoscale, in particular TERS (tip- enhanced Raman spectroscopy), a spectroscopic methodology with ≈ 10 nm spatial resolution.

Source: chab.ethz.ch

JOURNAL NEWS

Helvetica, Volume 106, Issue 3, March 2023

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Jianguang Zhou, Xingxian Gu, Shuping Yao, Jiong Ye, Peng Fu, Siqian Liu, Darija Dedic, Fabrice Gallou

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Kim Anh Nguyen, Emilie Lesur, Maxime Ribéraud, Antoine Sallustrau, Davide Audisio, Frédéric Taran
Destabilizing Predictive Copper-Catalyzed Click Reactions by Remote Interactions with a Zinc-Porphyrin Backbone
Jonathan Trouvé, Rafael Gramage-Doria

Website: *onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15222675*

INDUSTRIAL NEWS

Source: *www.chemanager-online.com*

Archroma Integrates Acquired Huntsman Assets
March 2, 2023: With the completion of its acquisition of Huntsman Textile Effects on Feb. 28, Swiss specialty chemicals producer Archroma, a portfolio company of US private investment firm SK Capital Partners, has revamped its operational structure. The former Huntsman businesses have been integrated with Archroma's existing Brand Performance Textile Specialties activities into a new unit called Archroma Textile Effects and headed by Rohit Aggarwal, former president of Huntsman Textile Effects, as divisional president and CEO. Aggarwal will also function as president Asia. Archroma's Packaging & Paper Specialties and Coatings, Adhesives & Sealants businesses have been combined with the Huntsman assets into a division called Archroma Paper, Packaging & Coatings. The business will be led by Sameer Singla as president and CEO. Singla will also be president Americas and Europe, Middle East & Africa. With the acquired Huntsman units, Archroma will have more than 5,000 employees in 42 countries, along with 35 production sites. Group CEO Heike van de Kerkhof said the combined product portfolios will be "highly complementary." The CEO said the new structure will ensure that both divisions obtain the resources and focus needed. In particular, she said Archroma is committed to supporting global megatrends and societal shifts such as circular fashion, plastic-to-paper replacement and water-based paints and coatings.

Sumitovant Closes Myovant Purchase
March 15, 2023: US biopharma Sumitovant – a wholly owned subsidiary of Japan's Sumitomo Pharma – has closed its purchase of the remaining equity in Myovant Sciences, taking full control of the Swiss clinical-stage biopharma for about $1.7 billion. Myovant will now be delisted from the New York Stock Exchange. "We are excited to have officially completed our acquisition of Myovant and look forward to working together to address unmet needs in women's health and prostate cancer," said Sumitovant's CEO Myrtle Potter. "By combining our unique expertise, platforms and resources, we will be better positioned to drive the growth of Myovant's products and accelerate the development of our robust combined pipeline." Prior to its takeover, Sumitovant was Myovant's largest shareholder with a 52% stake. It said it had invested about $600 million into the Basel-based pharma over the past several years to support the development of new drugs to treat advanced prostate cancer (Orgovyx), and uterine fibroids and endometriosis (Myfembree). Last October, Myovant rejected a first offer from Sumitovant, saying it significantly undervalued the company.

Sandoz Builds Biologics Plant in Slovenia
March 17, 2023: Sandoz, the generics and biosimilars arm of Swiss drugmaker Novartis, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to build a biologics production plant in Lendava, Slovenia. The company expects to invest at least $400 million in the project, which is intended to drive future growth in its global biosimilars portfolio. Sandoz said the project represents one of the largest-ever international private-sector investments in the country. "This state-of-the-art site will be a major new jewel in the Sandoz crown, enabling us to meet growing demand for our current and future biosimilars in the mid- to long term," said Glenn Gerecke, global head of technical operations. "The location offers us a strong combination of political stability, proximity to our existing European-based production and commercial operations, and competitive costs." Work on the new plant is set to start this year, with full operations provisionally planned for late 2026. Last November, Sandoz announced it would invest an additional €50 million in expanding its European manufacturing capacity for finished dosage-form penicillins. The additional investment followed plans disclosed in May 2021 to invest more than €100 million in new manufacturing technology for producing oral amoxicillin API at its site in Kundl, Austria. Sandoz also announced in 2021 that it was spending a further €50 million on sterile API production at Palafolls, Spain. To date, the company's investments in its European antibiotics network total €250 million. Anti-infectives (primarily antibiotics) is Sandoz' second-largest business after biopharmaceuticals.

Delivering Quality with Speed for European Market
WuXi STA Pushes ahead with the Expansion of its Global R&D and Manufacturing Network
March 20, 2023: In this interview, Jinling Chen, head of WuXi STA's drug product business, and Jamie Andrews, site head of WuXi STA's Couvet facility, explain the company's strategy and the goals of the European expansion. WuXi STA, a division of WuXi AppTec, a Chinese R&D and manufacturing services provider (CRDMO) for the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry, is increasing its regional footprint in Europe. Currently, the division operates facilities in the UK, Switzerland and Germany. CHEManager spoke with Jinling Chen, Head of WuXi STA's drug product business and Jamie Andrews, Site Head of the Couvet manufacturing site – a facility that the company purchased from Bristol-Myers Squibb in 2021 – about the strategy and goals of the European expansion.

CHEManager: WuXi STA's footprint in Europe starts from the facility in Switzerland. When and how was the facility added to the WuXi STA map?
Jinling Chen: The site was acquired from Bristol-Myers Squibb in August 2021 as a drug product manufacturing site and was already fully operational when purchased. It was quite a modern facility – the site was constructed between 2016 – 2018 and is installed with top-class equipment. Despite its 'young age', the Couvet facility had already passed multiple inspections from the FDA, EMA, SwissMedic, and Japanese PMDA. It was also designed with industry-leading energy efficiency and environmental standards with a few industry awards received for this. Looking forward, we foresee its potential as an increasingly important node in our global CRDMO network of 14 sites across Asia, the US and EU.

What are the core capabilities of this site?
Jamie Andrews: The Couvet site is a manufacturing facility for oral solid drug product at both clinical and commercial scales, with best-in-class equipment including automated visual inspection and fully integrated IT systems. In addition, the site has deeply customizable packaging and labeling lines for both primary and secondary packaging. The Couvet site has the annual capacity of one billion units of oral dosage forms, supplying eight key markets globally, including the US, EU, UK, Switzerland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and Japan.

What are the company's growth prospects in Europe?
J. Andrews: WuXi STA expects the Couvet site to become a key drug product supply hub in Europe. In order to achieve this goal, we will continue to enhance Couvet capabilities. New manufacturing, packaging and labeling capabilities are under construction, which will double the capacity once fully operational. Additionally, a larger warehouse implemented with an automated environment control system is also part of the near-future expansion plan to handle increasing logistics and supply demands.
J. Chen: We have also connected other nodes of our facilities for our European clients. Our drug product manufacturing site in Wuxi city, China, passed the EMA inspection last year and is currently supporting our European clients. We keep the same standards across all the sites within WuXi STA, so our clients can receive the same high-quality product from any site with a robust supply chain. This is also a demonstration of our dual-sourcing strategy.

For several years, WuXi has been pursuing a dual sourcing strategy. How has this worked for WuXi STA?
J. Chen: With a dual sourcing strategy, one manufacturing task can be assigned to multiple manufacturing sites. For European clients, their drug products can be manufactured at both the Couvet site in Switzerland and the Wuxi city site in China. We offer this dual-sourcing strategy to ensure robustness of supply. In case of any disruption at one site, the other can immediately step in to maintain productivity. We can guarantee the continuation of supply through our global network, providing an added layer of reassurance with increased efficiency.

WuXi STA has invested heavily in building and expanding its high potent (HP) manufacturing capabilities. What are the reasons for engaging and investing in this field?
J. Chen: The need for HP drug development continues to increase driven by a growing demand for oncology drugs. To better serve our global customers, we opened our first HP (<1 μg/m3) oral dosage drug product manufacturing facility in the Wuxi city site last year. And this year, we will open our first HP injectable drug product manufacturing line. Together, with the well-established HPAPI development and manufacturing facilities in the Changzhou and Jinshan sites, we now offer a one-stop solution for both early and late stages to clients with HP drug outsourcing needs.

What other capabilities can European clients expect from other WuXi drug product facilities?
J. Chen: WuXi STA has recently invested in the injectable drug product platform including the opening of two wholly automated manufacturing lines in fully enclosed isolators. Our facility supports multiple parenteral dosage forms and in different filling formats. From a new technology perspective, we opened a new lipid nanoparticle (LNP) manufacturing facility that provides new solutions to deliver more complex molecular modalities such as oligonucleotides.

How much increase in demand and subsequently in supply are you expecting to see in the near future and how do you plan to meet it?
J. Andrews: We are well set for growth, and the Couvet site is well prepared with its existing available capacity, significant expansion plans, as well as having the leverage of the global CRDMO network it connects to.
J. Chen: Speed and quality are customers' top priorities. Leveraging WuXi STA's strong capability in both API and drug product, our integrated CRDMO platform can provide fast, flexible, and high-quality solutions – particularly when we support customers with both API and drug product.

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Advanced Oxidation Treatment for Wastewater Oxidative Destruction of Organic Micropollutants with Nanoporous Catalysts and Scalable Energy Sources
March 20, 2023: Interview with Fajer Mushtaq and Silvan Staufert, Oxyle. Wastewater generated from industrial production streams and contaminated groundwater contains a massive range of micropollutants, like pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and industrial chemicals such as PFAS. These persistent compounds are non-biodegradable, bio-active, carcinogenic, and toxic to the lives of humans and our ecosystems. The Schlieren, Switzerland-based start-up Oxyle has developed a unique technology that offers complete removal and real-time monitoring of a wide range of micropollutants in a cost-effective and sustainable manner. Oxyle's co-founders, CEO Fajer Mushtaq and CTO Silvan Staufert, explained to CHEManager their unique overall approach to solve the global water contamination crisis and the company's next steps.

CHEManager: What was the starting point and motivation for founding Oxyle?
Silvan Staufert: Coming from a highly competitive and innovative University, ETH Zurich, we've realized the lack of innovation or sense of urgency by the water sector to address the emerging threat of organic pollutants in our water resources. By focusing our research into this area, we were able to achieve a technological breakthrough that can address the varied customer needs in this growing and profitable market. We were motivated to find Oxyle to be global leaders in protecting our precious water resources against micropollutants.

What is unique about your approach to solving the global water contamination crisis?
Fajer Mushtaq: We have developed a market-disruptive technology platform comprised of our modular plug-and-play reactors, our unique nanoporous catalysts, and our real-time water quality monitoring services. Our catalyst is activated by scalable energy sources such as bubbling, mechanical vibrations, stress, or even the flow of the water itself. Once activated by these clean and sustainable energy sources, our catalyst starts generating highly reactive radicals that destroy a wide range of micropollutants and degrade them into mineralised by-products such as water, sulphates, chloride, etc. Our solution is applicable to treat a wide array of micropollutants from industrial chemicals like PFAS to pesticides or pharmaceuticals, in a wide concentration range – from low ng/L to 100's of mg/L.

What are the value propositions Oxyle offers its customers?
S. Staufert: We offer our customers an efficient water treatment and monitoring platform that can treat all micropollutants of concern, non-selectively. Our treatment technology is driven by clean energy sources, does not use any toxic chemicals, and does not produce any secondary waste. We allow our customers to reuse treated water and reduce their blue water consumption and improve their sustainability goals. Our real-time micropollutant monitoring technology ensures that only the highest quality effluents are discharged. By working with our environmentally friendly solution, our customers enjoy a sustainable image. Our solutions are 2 – 10x cheaper than the existing solutions on the market. Moreover, our fully automated, easy-to-use modular technology ensures that our customers meet even the most stringent regulations.

What have been the most exciting projects so far?
F. Mushtaq: With our technology, we eliminate even the most mobile and persistent micropollutants such as Forever Chemicals, commonly referred to as PFAS chemicals (over 8,000 chemicals). Due to their highly persistent and stable form, if these toxic and carcinogenic chemicals are not effectively treated, they contaminate our precious ecosystems. One of the most exciting and impactful projects that we recently completed was focused on the removal of a range of these PFAS chemicals from contaminated groundwater. With our treatment, we demonstrated the removal of all measured PFAS compounds to below detection limits, in a sustainable, scalable, and cost-effective manner for our customers. Highly rewarding outcome considering there are thousands of such sites all over Europe. With our effective treatments, Oxyle will not only improve the health of our contaminated ecosystems but also protect humans from their negative impact.

What are your next steps in technology and business development?
F. Mushtaq: At present, we are piloting our technology at various customer sites across Europe to gain valuable customer testimonials and grow our outreach into new segments. We are also increasing our production capability to scale our operations and developing our remote monitoring service packages. We will bring our full-scale reactors to market towards the end of this year to serve our industrial customers and water remediation companies.

Business Ideas
Nanotechnology-Driven Wastewater Treatment
At present, 80% of the world's wastewater is discharged into rivers, lakes, and groundwater bodies without receiving any treatment. Rapid industrialization and growing demand for better consumer goods mean ever-increasing discharge of toxic pollutants into effluents and a strain on our freshwater resources. Just this year, EPA's health advisory level for PFOA (a chemical used in the production of waterproof clothes, Teflon, cosmetics, etc.) was drastically lowered from 400 ppt (ng/L) in 2009 to 0.004 ppq (pg/L), due to the danger these chemicals pose to humans when consumed.

Removal of Micropollutants
Oxyle has developed a sustainable and scalable technology that destroys a wide range of micropollutants including the forever chemicals such as PFAS, pharmaceuticals, hormones, pesticides etc. from contaminated wastewater. Oxyle's novel treatment process is driven by their nanoporous catalysts that oxidize and eliminate micropollutants, down to detection limits of 1 ng/L, even for the highly persistent compounds that are resistant to existing treatments – a value that is 10 – 100x lower than our competitors.
Real-Time Monitoring
This process is coupled with Oxyle's proprietary analytics technology that allows for real-time monitoring of micropollutants, a truly unique and much-needed offering that helps customers comply with their strict discharge regulations. The aim is to install remotely operated modular, decentralized reactors of varying sizes to meet customer needs from chemical and pharma companies, hospitals, and environmental remediation projects.

Scalable Business Model
Oxyle will earn revenue from licensing our technology to manufacturing partners. Our dominant source of revenue is recurring sales of our catalyst and water quality monitoring service packages. This revenue model ensures a low CAPEX for our customers while guaranteeing sustainable revenue growth for Oxyle.

A New Take on Logistics Procurement Study Provides Recommendations for Action by the Chemical Industry

March 22, 2023: In light of strained supply chains, logistics is increasingly becoming a competitive factor for the chemical industry. A recent study entitled "Procurement of logistics services in the chemical industry", which was supported by Dachser Chem Logistics, offers concrete recommendations. The authors of the study are Christian Kille, Andreas Backhaus and Constantin Reuter.
Times have changed. Supply chain disruptions, which result in delays and material bottlenecks, as well as reductions in the available capacity in logistics have demonstrated to companies in general, and particularly in the chemical industry, that they can only do so much. Until a few years ago, it was common practice when procuring logistics services to go with the cheapest provider and still expect excellent service. Such is the nature of a typical buyer's market. In the past three years, however, the market has morphed into one driven by supply. And despite a looming recession, this is unlikely to change. Reasons for this include a lack of qualified personnel, particularly drivers. In addition to soaring energy prices, this often presents a much greater challenge to chemical companies than to other industries. After all, chemical companies produce special goods – including dangerous goods. Handling these requires special equipment and know-how. The recent study clearly shows that chemical logistics procurement needs to adapt to these challenges if it is to continue to contribute to corporate success in the future. This means that those procuring chemical logistics services need to expand their knowledge so that they can select the right logistics solutions and partners. But they also need to tailor the procurement process to each situation – in short, a more customer-oriented approach is called for. In many sectors and corporate divisions, this is a well-established notion. In many areas of procurement, however, it is still quite new. After all, many procurement officers believe that customer orientation

is the job of the sales department. With a view to developing such a tailored procurement process and providing concrete recommendations, the study featured the customary market and process analyses, but also asked the chemical companies themselves what they think. The result is a procurement process that involves seven steps and poses 30 questions specifically about the procurement of transport services. It provides guidelines that help procurement officers choose the best solution in these challenging times and thus continue to enhance corporate competitiveness.

Overall, the study's analyses call for a change in perspective in the procurement of chemical logistics:

Customer orientation: The user is the procurement officer's customer for whom the logistics service is organized. Potential users are from production, sales, and purchasing. The user's requirements need to be understood and woven into the tender to guarantee security of supply in a tailored manner.

Overall-process orientation: Not only are the user's requirements diverse; unless they are understood and embedded in the overall process –in particular to avoid follow-up costs caused by, say, quality losses – supply efficiency can be compromised.

If procurement officers understand every aspect of how this works, the procurement of chemical logistics is prepared for the altered environment.

"Bad" Procurement Costs Money

The study also shows that the quantifiable KPIs of the costs or prices of purchased logistics services do not reflect the total costs for the company. This is because errors in the logistics chain can disproportionately affect a chemical company's total costs. The less attention paid to a logistics partner's performance and quality, the more likely it is that errors will occur. Furthermore, an overall assessment of the logistics process that takes all parties into account enables cost savings that can be neither recognized nor increased if transport logistics is viewed in isolation. In fact, insufficient coordination or synchronization can even lead to additional costs elsewhere. These findings can be distilled into six recommendations for the procurement of chemical logistics:

1. Building specific logistics expertise should play a fundamental part in the procurement of chemical logistics.
2. All procurement activities ought to focus on the chemical logistics user.
3. Sufficient time and effort should go into creating the tender, especially when it comes to identifying goals, requirements, and general conditions.
4. Comprehensive knowledge of the market is crucial for implementing a competitive logistics solution.
5. Narrow scopes of implementation and rigid contractual conditions are to be avoided.
6. An exchange of information between the parties in the value chain should be an integral part throughout the term of contract.

Keeping an Eye on the Entire Logistics Process

So what does bad procurement cost? The study does not quantify costs because they vary from case to case. However, it does offer tips for cutting existing costs down and avoiding additional ones. Ideally, procurement helps raise logistics performance while reducing overall process costs.

Cinven to Buy MBCC Admixture Assets from Sika

March 24, 2023: Private equity investor Cinven is acquiring MBCC Group's admixture business from Swiss construction chemicals major Sika on the rebound. Earlier, the British Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) had turned thumbs down on plans to sell the business to Ineos, citing antitrust concerns. Sika announced the deal with Ineos in early January, noting that the divestment was part of the remedy process to gain regulatory approval of its purchase of MBCC, formerly BASF Construction Chemicals. Cinven plans to wrap up the acquisition in the 2022 first half, if EU antitrust authorities approve. Financial and transaction parameters, including the timing for closing the divestment as well as the MBCC acquisition, remain largely unchanged. Sika said the changed plans have the British regulator's blessing. Operating under the Master Builders brand, the Mannheim, Germany-based activities, with more than 1,600 employees and 35 manufacturing sites across Europe, the UK, the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, generated annual sales of 920 million Swiss francs ($1 billion) in 2022. The concrete additives manufacturer touts its portfolio as offering sustainable solutions in the form of value-added technology and chemistry expertise to improve the performance of construction materials and to enable the reduction of CO_2 emissions in their production. When the former BASF business is integrated, Sika said it expects to generate annual synergies of 160 to 180 million Swiss francs. "The fact that we reached an agreement with Cinven without material changes underlines once more the attractiveness of the chemical admixture business," said Thomas Hasler, Sika's CEO. Saying the MBCC admixture assets "perfectly complement" the portfolio of the Cinven fund, Pontus Pettersson, partner at the private equity group, said the deal will boost the investor grouping's footprint in the construction market and boost its capabilities with renowned brands. Cinven also pointed to the "significant expertise" it gained in the admixtures market through its investment in Chryso. Under the investor's ownership, it said, "Chryso grew to become a leading player in the admixtures market."