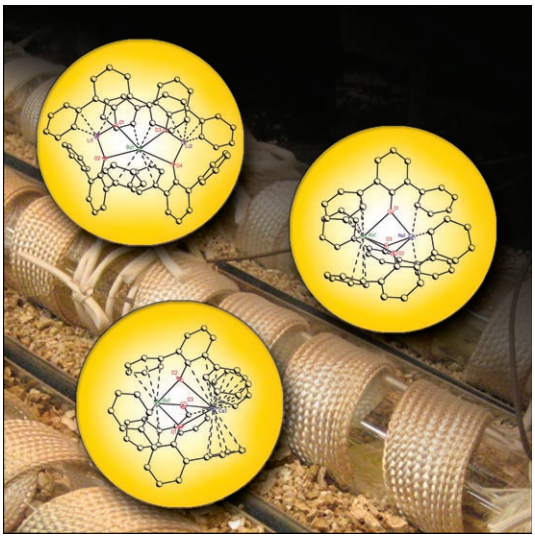
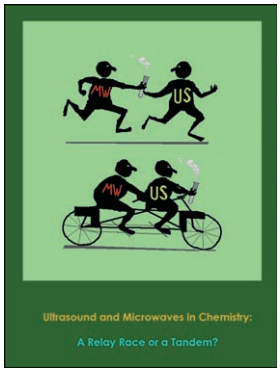
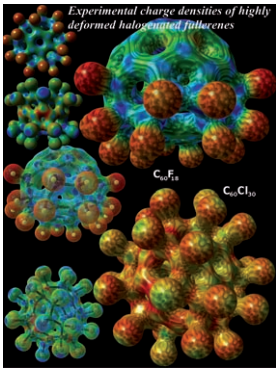
CHEMISTRY
A EUROPEAN JOURNAL

… was employed for the preparation of a number of alkaline-earth-metal species. In their Full Paper on page 1921 ff., K. Ruhlandt-Senge et al. describe the solid-state metalation (apparatus depicted on the background) of 2,6-diphenylphenol for the facile synthesis of unique heterobimetallic alkaline-earth-metal species such as $[Na\{Ba(Odpp)_3\}]$. The compounds display extensive π interactions, providing a significant increase in thermal stability to allow the preparation of compounds deemed previously too unstable for isolation.

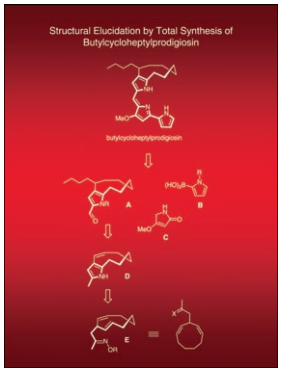




Green Chemistry
In their Concept article on page 1902 ff., P. Cintas and G. Cravotto show that a combined ultrasound and microwave irradiation process either in relay or in tandem, being practically hazard-free, represents an emerging technological innovation that deserves widespread attention in fine-chemical and pharmaceutical research.



Fullerene Chemistry
In their Full Paper on page 1910 ff., P. Luger et al. describe their latest advances in the investigation of electron density of fullerenes. They have obtained experimental and theoretical topological data for two halogen-substituted fullerene derivatives ($C_{60}F_{18}$ and $C_{60}Cl_{30}$).



Total Synthesis
In their Full Paper on page 1929 ff., A. Fürstner et al. resolve the dispute as to whether "butylcycloheptylprodigiosin" is a natural product or solely a mis-assigned structure. They report on the first total synthesis of this tripyrrole alkaloid as well as a set of analogues.

