

Preface

Special issue on “Environmental applications of advanced oxidation processes”

This special issue of *Journal of Hazardous Materials* is a collection of high quality papers presented as oral or poster contributions during the *1st European Conference on Environmental Applications of Advanced Oxidation Processes (EAAOP-1)* which was held in Chania, Greece from 7 to 9 September 2006 and co-organized by Technical University of Crete and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Over the past few decades, advanced oxidation processes (AOPs) have been given considerable attention as technically effective technologies for environmental remediation. Particular emphasis has been given on the removal of persistent pollutants from water and wastewater, while recent advances also deal with water disinfection, air pollution abatement and soil clean-up; these are generally done through the intermediacy of chemical initiators (i.e. free radicals) and energy to destroy target pollutants found in water, wastewater, soil and air.

EAAOP-1 brought together scientists, engineers and other environmental professionals from 30 countries all over the world (including, beyond Europe, North and South America, Australia and Asia) to present and discuss timely research, concerning the application of AOPs for water, wastewater, soil and air treatment and remediation. Over 290 oral and poster presentations as well as five plenary lectures were given by eminent researchers in this interesting scientific field during a hectic 3-day intensive program. Of these, several papers were selected for review and possible publication in this special issue which consists of

39 research articles. Topics that are dealt with by the research groups involved in these publications include homogeneous and heterogeneous photocatalysis, wet air oxidation, sonolysis, electrolysis, Fenton reactions as well as integration of AOPs with other treatment technologies.

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