

XIII International Cyclodextrin Symposium

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Although the history of cyclodextrins crosses three centuries this field is still developing intensively covering a great number of uses including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, catalysis, separation processes, environmental, biomedical applications etc.

Since 1981 the world cyclodextrin community has agreed on the organisation of International Cyclodextrin Symposium that every 2 years becomes the occasion for researchers from all over the world to meet. As it is well known, these series of meeting started in Budapest, fruit of the intuition of Prof. Josef Szejtli, who we sadly miss. The latest was held in Torino (Italy) from 14th to 17th May 2006 and was a real success both in term of participants (almost 300 from as many as 37 countries) and the number of presentations (53 oral and 264 as posters). Full papers deriving from this symposium were subjected to peer review and now the accepted ones are published on this special issue of the Journal of Inclusion Phenomena and Macrocyclic Chemistry devoted to the XIII International Cyclodextrin Symposium.

The articles deal with all the scientific area of cyclodextrins and many of them suggest new applications of such molecules sometimes unexpected ones. Generally speaking, the cyclodextrin science and technology seems to definitively get over the laboratory scale reaching the industrial scale.

I know that numerous scientific collaborations were established during the symposium also thanks to the friendly and comradely atmosphere during the meeting. Sometimes the scientific debate was continued long into the lunches, evening events and especially during the middle-age gala dinner at the Castle of Pavone.

Once again, I would like to thank my friends and co-workers of the organising committee and the members of

the scientific board for the help given to me in this hard task, the sponsors and the cyclodextrin community for the trust and the honour shown to me.

On behalf of the organising committee and on my own behalf I wish to express sincere thanks to all the authors that contributed to this issue.

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