



Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals

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Preface

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Preface

The 20th International Liquid Crystal Conference, a biennial event under the auspices of the International Liquid Crystal Society, was held in Ljubljana, Slovenia from July 4th to 9th, 2004. Some 700 participants from around the world active in liquid crystal research and device development attended and presented close to 900 papers describing the physics, chemistry and applications of liquid crystals. The conference also showed the growing importance of liquid crystal concepts in other areas of science like biological systems, supramolecular chemistry, colloidal systems, and polymetric materials with special properties. We thank the International Advisory Board and the Scientific Committee for their help in the preparation of the conference program.

These proceedings include 200 papers that were all subject to normal scientific peer review process. We owe special thanks to all the colleagues who refereed the papers for sacrificing their time. Without this help the proceedings could not be put together.

The meeting was organised by the liquid crystal community at Jozef Stefan Institute and University of Ljubljana, and was co-sponsored by the Society of Mathematicians, Physicists, and Astronomers of Slovenia and supported by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia and EU Commission under the ALCANDO project. The support of Taylor & Francis is also gratefully acknowledged.

The conference would not be possible without the dedicated work of all the members of the Local Organizing Committee. We thank them for their contribution to a successful and enjoyable conference. Finally, as Guest Editors, we also thank all the authors who submitted the results of their high quality research for the publication in these proceedings.

Guest Editors
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