

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

News and Events

EUROPEAN CHEMICAL ENGINEERS' DIRECTORY (ECED)

One of the main goals of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE) is to promote chemical and process engineering on a European level and partly also on a global level. This can best be done by knowing who the chemical and process engineers in Europe are, and what their expertise and interests are.

To achieve this goal a European Chemical Engineers' Directory (ECED) has been developed which is available at the web address www.eced.cz or on the EFCE website www.efce.info. Entry is free of charge. The Directory is administered by the Czech Society of Chemical Engineering on behalf of the EFCE. The aim of the Directory is to provide assistance to EFCE Working Parties and EFCE Member Societies.

Working Parties can utilize the ECED to set up their own mailing databases and to distribute information in electronic form to all those who are interested in their activities. Working Parties can contact the ECED through info@eced.cz and, if they wish, send in their lists of mailing addresses. The ECED administrator will contact the persons in the lists submitted and will invite these persons to submit their contact data to the ECED so that they can be currently informed about all activities of the Working Parties and receive relevant invitations to events. The ECED is divided into two levels. Data on level 1 is available only to EFCE bodies (Working Parties, Member Societies, EFCE Secretariats). Data on level 2 is available on the internet and can be used for making searches for persons interested in certain topics or with expertise in certain subjects. This can be of particular interest in setting up international teams for EU grants.

In a similar manner Member Societies can utilize the ECED to create databases of their members who wish to receive invitations to EFCE events or who wish to present papers at international conferences or congresses.

Entry to the ECED is also open to individual chemical and process engineers who wish to be informed about the activities of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering.

The ECED now has over 700 entries and the website has had over 7000 visits. It is felt that the ECED is an important contribution towards furthering understanding among all those concerned with chemical and process engineering. Interest in the ECED is steadily rising and it is hoped that this announcement will awaken the interest of Working Parties, Member Societies as well as individuals in this initiative of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering. For further information e-mail info@eced.cz.

EFCE WORKING PARTY ON DRYING

The Working Party on Drying gathered for its business meeting on 21 August 2006 during the 15th International Drying Symposium (IDS) in Budapest, Hungary. Thirty-two delegates and guests of the Working Party were present, contributing many keynote, oral and poster presentations to the IDS.

The work of retiring members was acknowledged, and new delegates and members were given a warm welcome. The Working Party was informed about the results of the EFCE General Assembly meeting 2005 in Glasgow and other current developments within the EFCE. Furthermore, information about participation of Working Party members in EU projects on food, energy and new materials has been exchanged. This participation has not the desired extent and is usually not under the flag of chemical engineering. Therefore, serious concerns about the low share of the chemical engineering community in the current European Framework 6 Programme—and about the future in Framework 7—were brought forward during the meeting. The general impression is that the EFCE should, in cooperation with the European industry, more strongly promote chemical engineering in Brussels during the discussion of strategic research goals, the definition of thematic areas and the selection of evaluation panels.

Another important topic of the meeting was the progress of the book series 'Modern Drying Technology' which was initiated by the Working Party. The Working Party Chairman, Professor Evangelos Tsotsas, and Professor Arun Mujumdar from Singapore, founder of the biannual IDS series and renowned expert in the field of drying, are the editors of the series. The contributions for the first volume bearing the title *Computational Tools at Different Scales* are almost complete and its publication by Wiley is expected for early 2007. Cutting-edge research will be presented on the following topics: continuous and pore network models of intra-particle transport phenomena; thermo-mechanical behaviour; computational fluid dynamics for spray dryers; population balances for fluidized bed operations; and process systems simulation tools. Many authors are members of the Working Party or closely related European researchers. The series shall in total comprise five volumes, with yearly publication. The second volume will present modern experimental tools in drying technology; although some possible contributors are already identified, suggestions are still welcome and should be made to Professor Tsotsas. The remaining volumes will be dedicated to product engineering, process intensification, energy and environmental issues.

As a spin-off of the book project a recommendation on drying nomenclature has been worked out. This recommendation is strict enough to prevent confusion, but also flexible in terms of offering reasonable alternatives. It will soon be available at the website of the Working Party (www.uni-magdeburg.de/ivt/efce/).

Another issue was the candidature of Otto-von-Guericke-University, Magdeburg, Germany, for hosting IDS 2010, which was put forward by Professor Tsotsas and positively decided upon during the symposium. By attracting this biggest and most influential conference on drying technology once again to Europe, the important role of European research in global chemical engineering is underlined.

Finally, decisions were made for the next technical and business meeting of the Working Party on Drying on 24/25 May 2007 in Biarritz, with the French Drying Association AFSIA as the host, and an informal meeting during ECCE-6, which will take place from 16–21 September 2007 in Copenhagen, Denmark.



Opening Ceremony of the 15th International Drying Symposium with Prof. Evangelos Tsotsas (WP Chairman), Károly Molnár (President of Budapest University of Technology and Economics), István Farkas (IDS Chairman and WP member), Arun Mujumdar (Honorary IDS Chairman) and Zdzislaw Pakowski (IDS Secretary and WP member).