

Continuous Flow Reactor Technology for Industrial Applications *symposia*

Stay tuned!

A flowing history of ongoing successes

Chimica Oggi-Chemistry Today, TKS Publisher, is organizing for the 5th consecutive year a symposium on "Continuous Flow Reactor Technology for Industrial Applications".

While last September the harrowing notes of a fado were closing the 4th conference on flow chemistry in Lisbon, the road for the next convention in 2013 was already paved. The decision was taken. After Madrid, Paris, Como and Lisbon, we decided to come back to Italy, to Pisa this time. Since the first event, which took place in Madrid in 2009, our *symposia* have developed to a true history of success due to the increasing interest of specialists in the sector. Today, plenty of similar events are organised each year, but we can state, not without some pride, that we have been among the forerunners in this field. A new frontier of chemistry has opened up and we have given it the space it deserves - a highly professional space, as witnessed by the exceptional quality of each speaker and by all those who attended in the past and will attend in the future such an event that has now become an awaited, fixed appointment in many agendas.

Let's go back over together the history of the event!

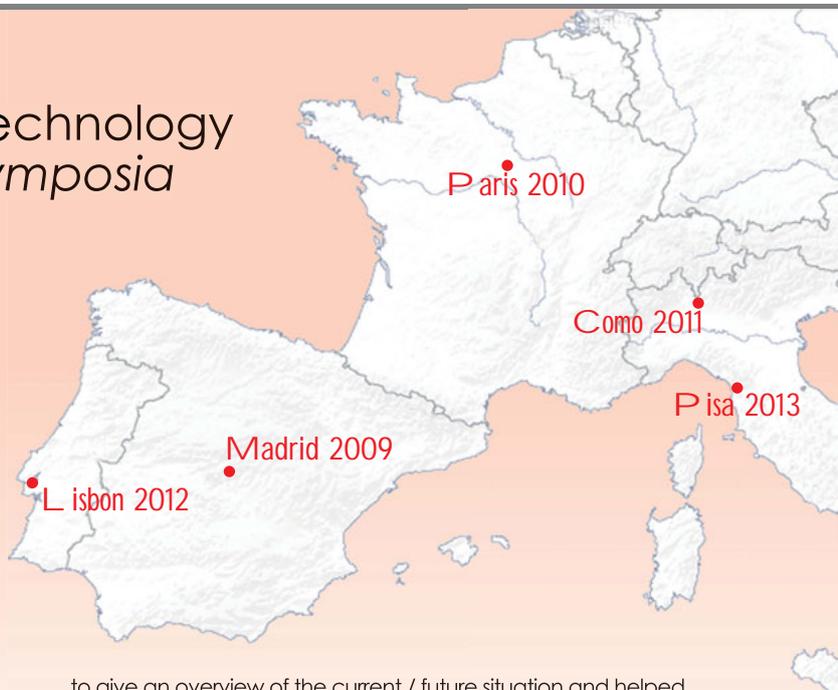
The first experience was in year 2009 in Madrid. The Madrid conference focused on practical experiences from fine chemicals companies and presentations of analysis equipment and pumps. The aim of the symposium was to highlight the breakthrough technology of continuous flow reactors in the area of industrial chemical synthesis, enabling fewer reagents, less discarded materials, high throughput, more efficiency, increased safety and reduced environmental impact.

In 2010 the symposium was organized in Paris and gave an in-depth overview of synthesis and auxiliary equipment with a focus on Process Analytical Technologies (PAT), regulatory and safety issues and a workshop entirely devoted to Economic evaluations. This second symposium obtained a success even bigger than the previous event thanks to also an implemented exhibition area, which led to important and helpful networking.

The third event took place in 2011 in Como, Italy, and dealt with case studies, manufacturing solutions (plant engineering), process analytical technologies and regulatory issues. The audience was pleased with FDA statements, which helped in explaining the regulatory current situation. A very high interest was expressed on the economic benefits given by this technology.

From the Como edition, we decided to leave more time for important and extensive networking occasions. Occasions designed to be enjoyable and to bring people together while having some fun! Extra activities were organized at evenings like boat trips and gala dinners. A joyful way to exchange ideas on flow chemistry, ... and maybe something more!

During the 4th edition in Lisbon more room was given to case studies, vendor communications, downstream processing and discussions related to the technical and economic future of flow chemistry. Three contemporary workshops were arranged in order



to give an overview of the current / future situation and helped attendees understand what a company really needs to start working with continuous. Networking began at the exhibition area and continued on the trams, which took us around the beautiful monuments of Lisbon and at a typical Portuguese restaurant.

The "fado" mood, paved the way to Pisa.

Why Pisa? Because it's a very attractive town! And it is also an evocative place.

First at all Pisa is the birthplace of Galileo Galilei. And, since we started this article by speaking about music, it is worth to remind that Galileo Galilei's father Vincenzo was an excellent musician and a stringed instruments maker. It was Vincenzo Galilei who enrolled Galileo to the University of Pisa. Today Pisa hosts the "Scuola Normale Superiore" one of the most prestigious universities worldwide. Pisa, definitively, was the best candidate city for our second symposium taking place in Italy!

The aim of **this year's symposium** is to drive the participants' attention towards sustainable case studies, process intensification examples, fine and pharmaceutical chemicals results obtained in continuous and economic evaluations.

For us, to organise the symposium in an urban context full of history, in a context, which, for several centuries, has inspired and still inspires talented minds with new ideas, novel stimuli; in a city, which in ancient times was one of the medieval maritime republics and became an open window on the known world of that times, means a bet for the future and a promise too. All this must turn into something useful for the community of chemistry and for the industry but also into an active and concrete contribution to the progress we like to provide.

Most of you will now think that we are making a quite rhetoric and strong statement, but let's go back to music once again. An orchestra is made up of several voices. The simple tinging sound of a triangle, apparently the smallest and the most modest instrument in an orchestra, is the instrument which in a "fortissimo" is able to bring a crystalline sound evocating a sunshine overwhelming the mass of instruments and to lead a symphony to its final apotheosis!



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