

# International Symposium on High-Performance Thin-Layer Chromatography in Lyon

The recently held International Symposium on High-Performance Thin-Layer Chromatography in Lyon, France, 02–04, July 2014, was a great success and attracted scientists from about 25 countries, with leading participations from France, Germany, Poland, Switzerland, India, USA and Spain. All the nations enjoyed the unique charming French hospitality and great thank is owed to the organization committee! The auditorium was gender-balanced with equal representation from industry and academia. 190 Abstracts were submitted and actually 46 oral presentations were held and 108 posters presented. Practical workshops were followed by three comprehensive tutorials, a freshened, but fruitful panel discussion on research & development with representatives of five manufacturers, a historic lecture on Lyon and many other excellent presentations.

Some of the latest research was presented for the first time at the Symposium. Examples are new generations of miniaturized nanostructured or electrospun layer materials or substantial improvements in effect-directed analysis, e.g., for sensitive detection of estrogens in complex samples down to the femtogram-per-zone range. Modern direct bioautography, generating sharp zones, seems to become an attractive tool for non-target analyses.



But also the effectiveness of HPTLC was proven by benchmarking with HPLC as shown for the example of the streamlined analysis of sugars in chicory root juice. The increased use of HPTLC-MS



was evident and new ionization sources were presented like the combined laser desorption/electrospray and atmospheric pressure chemical ionization source. Particularly young researchers presented their work.

The high quality throughout all the presentations was highly recognized: “I very much enjoyed the meeting as I was really impressed by quality of the work presented and the power of modern HPTLC” or “The technical quality of the meeting was extremely high with a large number of really excellent presentations”. These are only some voices out of a plenty of positive feedbacks. So thanks to all the committed presenters – this is your great success!

All the poster presentations were greatly appreciated and provided a fertile ground for intense discussion, followed by collaborations. Knowledge was shared and new ideas discussed. This was also valued by many feedbacks: “Are the HPTLC meetings always this much fun and exchange of knowledge?” or “...really an excellent platform for learning and sharing” or “We had wanted to meet you for some time. The HPTLC symposium provided the perfect opportunity” or simply “It was really a piece of a very good work”.

We are already looking forward to the next International HPTLC Symposium, scheduled in Berlin, Germany, in beginning of July 2017. Try to be better by keeping yourself updated and joining us!