



Progress *requires commitment*

Our world is facing new challenges and problems as never before. National governments are no longer able to assure economic growth, welfare and technical progress. Instead, a globalized economy has even more influence which demands more responsibility from industry. The chemical industry is the essential fundamental industry shaping our world more so than any other, because nearly every product is based on the use of established chemicals and new materials. Without chemistry there would be no cars, houses, fabrics, energy, telephones or computers.

Additionally, chemical knowledge and technology is essential to meet new challenges like saving our environment, climate protection, sustainability, and energy supply in the post oil age. Chemistry can invent new molecules, but only chemical engineering can turn them into new products, into innovations.

The ACHEMA International Exhibition-Congress on Chemical Engineering, Environmental Protection and Biotechnology in Frankfurt am Main is by far the largest and leading event bringing together all those committed to progress in these fields every three years. About 4,000 exhibitors and 200,000 participants from 100 countries will take up DECHEMA's invitation when the ACHEMA Programme announcing the 28th ACHEMA in May 2006 is published and distributed at the end of this year. Outsourcing, concentration on core business, and globalization are the driving forces for the creation of new means of information exchange, technology transfer, and cooperation. New kinds of worldwide human networks of leading scientists, engineers and industrialists are necessary to ensure that the needs of tomorrow are met today. Fostering established networks and creating new links is the main aim of ACHEMA, which remains the dominant innovation exhibition for the process industries. Therefore, I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Frankfurt next May!

Prof. Gerhard Kreysa
Chief Executive of DECHEMA e.V.