

Top grades for AACHEMA 2006

ACHEMA 2006, the leading international event for chemical engineering, environmental protection and biotechnology in Frankfurt am Main, was a complete success for exhibitors and visitors alike.

Representatives from across the industry expressed satisfaction with the excellent quality of the discussions and contacts at the show.

Right from opening day, a number of exhibitors reported that they were able to establish good business contacts and engage in partnership discussions which gave them good cause for optimism.

ACHEMA 2006 was larger and more international than any of the previous AACHEMA events. 3,880 exhibitors from 50 countries were on hand this year compared to 3,819 exhibitors from 48 countries at AACHEMA 2003. Exhibitors presented a very extensive range of system solutions, equipment, technological expertise and services for the chemical, petrochemical, pharmaceutical and food industries and related sectors of the material processing industry on 135,514 m² of net exhibition space between May 15 and May 19, 2006 at the world's largest event for the process industry.

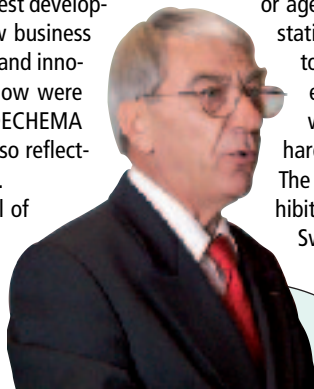
Around 180,000 professionals from 98 countries were at AACHEMA to find out more about the latest developments and trends and to establish new business contacts. The international significance and innovative energy of the 28th AACHEMA show were greater than ever before according to DECHEMA Chairman Alfred Oberholz. The event also reflected the state of the worldwide economy. Many exhibitors reported a higher level of qualified discussions and international contacts. The slight decline in visitor numbers (-4.4%) was not really noticeable, because foreign visitors often attended the show on several days, and this more than compensated for the lower overall visitor numbers. In many cases more than 50% of the contacts were made with visitors from abroad. Exhibitors welcomed the decision not to keep the show open on Saturday.

A visitor survey revealed that for the first time more than 30% of visitors came from outside of

Germany, which is an 8% increase compared to 2003. There were large delegations from Japan, India, China and the Middle East along with high-profile representatives from business and major institutions in the various countries.

Significantly more exhibitors from around the world

The number of exhibitors from other countries exceeded the figures for all previous events (44.4% this year compared to 37.7% in 2000 and 40.9% in 2003). If you include foreign companies which were represented at AACHEMA by their subsidiaries or agents (which are included as German companies in the statistics), then the percentage of foreign companies rises to over 50%. "ACHEMA has moved to an entirely new level and consolidated its reputation as the leading worldwide show for the process industries," commented Gerhard Kreysa, DECHEMA CEO and organizer of AACHEMA. The largest contingents came from Germany (2,157 exhibitors), Italy (266 exhibitors), the UK (204 exhibitors), Switzerland (177 exhibitors), the US (173 exhibitors), France (137 exhibitors) and Holland (104 exhibitors). The Asian region showed the strongest growth in exhibitor numbers (China +185%, South Korea +143% and India +61%). Representatives from China, India, Pakistan and Brazil among others have already indicated that they will have a stronger presence at the next AACHEMA. Visitors and exhibitors are already showing a high level of interest in AchemAsia which will be held next year from May 14-18, 2007 in Beijing. ■



"ACHEMA has moved to an entirely new level."

**Gerhard Kreysa,
DECHEMA CEO and
organizer of
ACHEMA**