

25–27 OCTOBER 2023

SEPAWA®
CONGRESS

The 70th SEPAWA® CONGRESS the 19th European Detergents Conference and the Cosmetic Science Conference from October 25th to 27th, 2023 in Berlin

It's clear now: 'Participation in the SEPAWA® CONGRESS is essential in our industries'.

For the fifth year, the SEPAWA® CONGRESS was held at the ECC Estrel Congress Center in Berlin. It was the 70th SEPAWA® CONGRESS. This doesn't mean it's getting old. On the contrary, the SEPAWA® CONGRESS is vibrant and enjoys great popularity within our industry and beyond. Statistics clearly demonstrate this: 3516 participants from 65 countries, 318 exhibiting companies, 155 presentations, and 65 posters.

Allow a moment of nostalgia, as the 'congress journey' once led from Bad Dürkheim via Würzburg and Fulda to Berlin. For instance, at the 57th SEPAWA® CONGRESS in 2010 in Fulda, around 1600 participants from 29 countries gathered. The exhibition counted 148 exhibitors, 28 presentations were held in the scientific conference, and 46 short presentations took place in the then-new 'Forum for Innovation. The SEPAWA® e.V. board and the SEPAWA® eVent GmbH, as organizers, have once again succeeded in designing and smoothly executing an attractive congress. The congress venue is ideal, and visible expansions regarding on-site accommodation capacities are taking shape. The congress format, combining lectures and a trade exhibition, is coherent, and the distances between them are short. Research findings of industry-related scientific basic research were presented in up to five parallel sessions within the 'European Detergents Conference' (EDC), scientific cosmetics results within the 'Cosmetic Science Conference' (CSC) of the DGK e.V., as well as results of application-oriented research and development in detergents, cosmetics, and perfumery.

The session on regulatory topics and sustainability, founded by the SEPAWA® e.V. specialist group 'Legislative-Environment-Consumer' and the main committee for detergents of the GDCh, is gaining importance. A session on 'Sustainable Packaging'

has now become established in the lecture program. Parallel to the lecture program, a poster session takes place on all three congress days.

SEPAWA® CONGRESS has a unique appeal of combining a trade show exhibition with a forum for discussion via conference, posters and many network opportunities under one roof.

318 companies showcased their innovations and many of them presented at the 'Forum for Innovations'.

Each year, a highlight is the honoring of exceptional achievements. Dr. Hans Jürgen Scholz, the 1st Chairman of SEPAWA® e.V., conferred the awards.

Awarding of the SEPAWA® e.V. Young Researchers' Award

The annual SEPAWA® e.V. **Young Researchers' Award** fulfills one of the most important objectives of SEPAWA® e.V., particularly to support the training of young professionals. The prize is awarded to students for outstanding bachelor's, master's, and doctoral theses.

From the submitted works, the jury selected seven winners. Specifically, two bachelor's, three master's, and two doctoral theses were evaluated as deserving of the prize.



Picture: Young Researchers' Award Winners 2023



Picture credits: ©Katrin Heyer

The **1st prize** in the category 'Outstanding University Graduate with a Bachelor's Degree' was awarded to **Ms. Carolin Goj**, Hochschule Niederrhein, in cooperation with Henkel AG & Co KGaA, for her work on '*Influence of Cations on the Interfacial, Rheological, and Application-Technical Properties of Surface-Active Ionic Liquids*'.

The **2nd prize** went to **Mr. Jacob-Nelson Noudem Zombou**, Ostwestfalen-Lippe University of Applied Sciences, in collaboration with Symrise AG, for the work on '*Optimization of Water Solubility of Loadable Polymer Matrices*'.

The **1st prize** in the category 'Outstanding Master's Thesis' was awarded this year to **Mr. Robin Benedix**, University of Stuttgart, for the work on '*CO₂-Switchable Additives and Surfactants*'.

The **2nd prize** was given to **Ms. Annika Greupner**, University of Hamburg & Henkel AG & Co. KGaA, for her work on '*The Role of Enzymes in Natural Hair Colouration Exemplified by Hair Dyeing Mechanism of Henna Plant (Lawsonia inermis L.)*'.

The **3rd prize** was awarded to **Ms. Kathrin Ludwig**, University of Hamburg & Henkel AG & Co. KGaA, for work on 'Method Development for De-

termination the Antioxidant Activity of Raw Materials with Potential Effects on Hair'.

The **1st prize** in the category 'Outstanding Doctoral Thesis' was awarded to **Dr. rer. nat. Albert Prause**, Technical University of Berlin, for the title: '*Structural Investigation of Hydrophobically Modified Thermoresponsive Polymers and Their Influence on the Rheology of Microemulsions*'.

The **2nd prize** went to **Dr. rer. nat. Tamara Schäd**, University of Stuttgart, for her work on: '*Innovative Cleaning Concept for Art Objects and Cultural Assets*'.

Awarding of the SEPAWA® e.V. Innovation Award

Innovations are crucial for growth and competitiveness in our markets and form the basis for successful and sustainable business. For the ninth time this year, the SEPAWA® e.V. Innovation Award was presented to three winners in the fields of cosmetics and detergents. The award aims to provide impulses for active idea management in the member companies of SEPAWA® e.V. and raise public awareness for successful innovations.

A neutral and independent jury, consisting of 7 members of the advisory

board, the scientific advisory board, and the board of SEPAWA® e.V., selected 4 winners from 26 submissions. The prize consists of a certificate and a wooden trophy, stylized in the form of the SEPAWA® e.V. wave.



Picture credits: ©Katrin Heyer

The **first prize** went to **Worlée-Chemie GmbH** for their work titled: '*Product Innovation WorléeSuspens ECO: Sustainable Biopolymer for Environmentally Friendly Product Solutions*'.



Picture credits: ©Katrin Heyer

The **second prize** was awarded to **Seppic France** for the work titled: '*SAGACIOUS™ – The Biomimetic Anti-Sagging Ingredient*'.



↑ A **third prize** was presented to **Inolex GmbH** with the title '*AminoSensyl™ Ultra MB – Breakthrough Cationic Amino Lipid Technology for Sustainable Hair Care*'.



↑ Another **third prize** was awarded to **Symrise AG** for the title: '*Multifunctionals as Innovative Solutions for Formulating Modern Home Care Products*'.

The award ceremony took place at the beginning of the After Event. There's no more fitting moment than the award ceremony attended by around 950 guests, even if they have to wait a little longer.

Awarding of the GDCh Division of Detergent Chemistry

Traditionally, the GDCh Division of Detergent Chemistry honors young scientists for excellent scientific work with particular relevance to the development of detergents and cleaning agents.

This year, the sponsorship award for an outstanding doctoral thesis was given to **Dr. Susanne Jacksch**, Institute of Precision Medicine, Furtwangen University, Villingen-Schwenningen, Germany. The title of the work is: '*Investigations on the structure and func-*

tion of the microbiota in household washing machines, kitchen sponges, and on laundered textiles'. The work was sponsored by **Justus Liebig University Giessen** and **Henkel AG & Co. KGaA**.

The Lecture Event – a Compilation of Selected Focus Topics

The lecture event reflects both the scientific foundation and the breadth of technical applications of our detergent/cleansing, cosmetic, and perfume industries comprehensively.

Within the **European Detergents Conference (EDC)**, founded by the 'Division of Detergent Chemistry' specialist group of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, 14 scientific presentations were held on the theme '*Polymers in Water - Quo Vadis?*'. It delves into the future role of water-soluble polymers, focusing on issues such as self-organization, modern production methods, water treatment, use in existing and new application areas, and the general biodegradability of such materials.

The presentations were supplemented by theses on the awarded doctoral

Awarding of the SOFW Award

For the fourth time, measured against the 150-year history of the journal, a 'young tradition', the 'SOFW Award' was presented at the SEPAWA® CONGRESS for the three best articles in the SOFW Journal of the previous year.

Following the recommendations of a 9-member expert jury, three winners were selected and honored from 51 articles.

The **first prize** was awarded to the authors **A.J. Hoekstra**, **E. Care**, and **T.P. Graycar** of the company: **IFF Health & Biosciences** for the article

on '*Advancements in Enzyme Engineering Open Opportunities for More Sustainable Detergents*'.

The **second prize** was awarded to **S. Christian** and **V. Krug** from **GloryActives GmbH**. The article's topic is: '*Protective Beauty – Comprehensive Skin Protection through Enzymes*'.

Authors **J. Heuer** and **P. Arbter** from **COLIPI GmbH** received the **third prize** for the publication on the topic '*Sustainable Yeast Oil - How Fat is That?*'.



Picture: SOFW Award Winners 2023

work by the laureate. The EDC presented 21 science-oriented posters.

During the **Scientific Conference of SEPAWA® e.V.**, which covers the latest research results of our industries – detergent/cleansing, cosmetic, and perfume – and their regulatory framework, 64 presentations were delivered. The main topics in the **'Personal Care Session'** carried by the **CAT specialist group** included inflation and pricing, green chemistry and biotechnology, natural ingredients in formulations, and product-related carbon footprint. In the **Home Care Session**, the focus was on circular economy and plastic reuse, color protection for textiles, and modeling the stability of dispersed systems. The **LUV specialist group** is responsible for selecting the presentations, always focusing on the most current topics. For example, the selection included critical degradation products of aminopolyphosphonates in the environment, plastic and microplastic issues, the factual discussion on 1,4-dioxane by **TEGEWA** in light of upcoming legislative initiatives to limit it, and the aimed simplification of the European Detergents Regulation.

In addition, 46 posters were exhibited. This year, 88 speakers presented the latest in their developments in the 'Forum for Innovation' and 19 posters with application-oriented content were displayed. The posters were represented on-site throughout the congress by the presenters, mainly by young scientists from universities and academic institutes, as well as by employees of industrial research and institutional facilities in our industries.

The Cosmetic Science Conference of the DGK e.V.: 'The Scientific Foundations of Cosmetics'

The aim of this conference is to present the development of cosmetic sciences through impressive background information. Modern formulation technologies using new ingredients are the focus. The CSC comprised a total of 19 presentations this year. The topics

Keynote Lecture

This year's keynote speech was delivered by **Dr. Theo Waigel** under the title: *'Politics and Economy in Unsteady Times'*. A broad audience gathered in the auditorium, eagerly anticipating the insights of one of the most experienced figures in German politics on the aforementioned topic. He himself describes the facts, makes observations, and outlines the questions as follows:

'They are blind guides. If a blind man guides a blind man...' Matthew 15:14

- A world in transition! Inflation, war, power shifts, threatened democracy! What does history teach us? Has this all happened before?
- How were these challenges overcome? Can we learn from this?
- Do we need more sighted people?
- Quo vadis genus humanum?
- Should we be confident or fearful?



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Sustainable Packaging

mirror the breadth of cosmetic science. New active ingredients are highlighted for their physiological effects; biotechnologically based processes and active substances are introduced, focusing on the energetic and temporal optimization of emulsion production, as well as the selection of suitable emulsifiers for cold production. Moreover, studies on the photostability of UV filters and their realistic efficacy are presented.

The topic of 'Sustainable Packaging' is highly relevant and therefore a consistent part of the congress program. In 11 presentations of the session, participants were informed about the current regulations of packaging solutions, as well as their latest practical implementations. Topics included the reuse of packaging and associated challenges and risks, novel bioplastics, and aerosols.

After Event

Almost 950 guests enjoyed the wide selection of culinary delights and did not mind lining up at the buffet tables of the celebrity chefs. The ECC excelled with its gastronomic abilities, and the Estrel Live Band invited everyone to dance. One of the highlights of the after party were a special guest appearance by The Blues Brothers who got everyone on their feet to dance along!

As usual, the party went on until well after midnight.

Conclusion, Thanks, and Outlook

The SEPAWA® CONGRESS hasn't lost any of its attractiveness. On the contrary, the 70th SEPAWA® CONGRESS, actually a mini-jubilee in sequence, counted **over 3500 attendees**. A proud record. Familiar procedures, as well as innovations, have contributed to this success. Registration runs smoothly, and bidding farewell to the traditional coupon system for food and beverages is certainly a gain. It's not only the ECC location that effortlessly accommodates congresses of this scale. It's the participants who create a lively atmosphere and a great networking opportunity overall. Specifically, it's the speakers with their pre-

sentations on various topics and the exhibiting companies that showcase the continuity, creativity, and innovation of our industry.

The board of SEPAWA® e.V. thanks everyone who contributed to the success of the congress, especially the team of SEPAWA® eVent GmbH, led by **Robert** and **Siegfried Fischer**, which prepared and conducted the congress with professionalism and enthusiasm.

Conclusion:
'Value for money is right.' This makes the annual **SEPAWA® CONGRESS**

the most significant meeting point for the detergent/cleansing, cosmetic, and perfume industries in Europe.

It's never too early to mark your calendar! The **SEPAWA® CONGRESS 2024** will take place from **October 16th to 18th** at the ECC in Berlin.

Picture: After Event 2023



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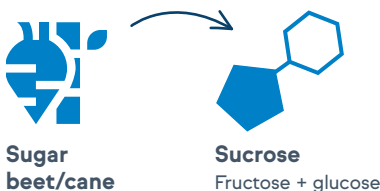
Introducing IFF's Designed Enzymatic Biomaterials (DEB) Technology

Robust and consistent performance of home and personal care products is critically important; particularly given their relevancy and presence in our daily lives. Alongside this need is the increased desire for sustainable materials and the rise in the number of natural and/or bio-based ingredients in the marketplace. Yet, without achieving performance equal to or greater than petroleum-based materials, natural and bio-based alternatives will not fully replace incumbent materials nor satisfy customer and consumers' needs.

IFF has developed a new-to-the-world class of polysaccharides that can address these considerations. The resulting innovation – Designed Enzymatic Biomaterials (DEB) – gives rise to products that drive performance enhancements while being bio-based, and can be designed to be biodegradable.

1 A sustainable, fungible feedstock

In the bio-revolution, plant-based sugars can replace fossil feedstocks. Sustainable feedstocks from agricultural crops such as sugar beet or sustainably-farmed sugar cane are converted in biorefineries into products serving the food, feed, material and energy markets.




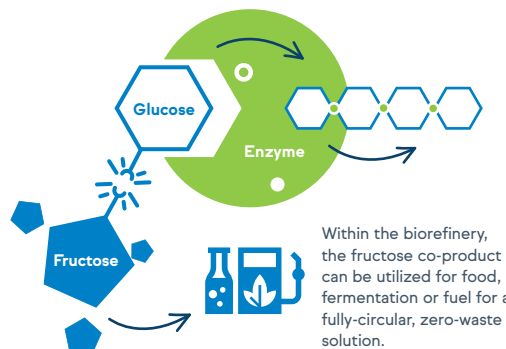
The Designed Enzymatic Biomaterials bring three important benefits that makes the alpha-glucan molecule unique. They are highly customizable, have excellent structural uniformity, and can be designed to be biodegradable.

With the DEB generation of functional ingredients, formulators, brands and customers will no longer have to choose between sustainability and performance.

2 Enzymatic Polymerization

The designed enzymes are used to catalyze the conversion of sucrose to form the poly-glucose material (polysaccharide).

 Enzymatic polymerization works at ambient temperature & pressure conditions to convert aqueous solutions of plant-sugar into the polysaccharide, which is then separated using conventional processes.



IFF's DEB technology takes the rational design of modern polymer science into the enzymatic polymerization/ catalysis domain and will propel this field forward and allow breakthrough scientific discoveries and industrial implementation. In fact, Designed Enzymatic Biomaterials have the potential to break the trade-off between performance and sustainability to become a true enabler for the home and personal care industry of the future.

3 Polysaccharides with highly tunable properties

The enzymatic polymerization process allows for precise control of the way glucose molecules are linked, leading to a consistent, high-quality biomaterial with customizable properties. This enables access to a wide range of polymer length, material morphologies and control in further functionalization.

