

# Charting a New Course

Annual Report 2013



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# Foreword

## Towards a new format for DPI

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Last year, in our Foreword to the 2012 Annual Report, we had expressed the hope that the Dutch government would take a long-term view and continue to support public-private partnerships like DPI as part of its policy to promote collaborative research and innovation and enhance the knowledge infrastructure in the Netherlands.

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Over the past fifteen years, DPI has developed into an internationally acclaimed example of cost effectively addressing the needs of industry while at the same time building a strong academic base producing innovative solutions as well as competently trained polymer experts. DPI's success is also the success of the Dutch government, whose commitment and financial support have all along been of crucial importance in creating the strong knowledge infrastructure for polymers that the Netherlands boasts today.

This polymer knowledge infrastructure is likely to come under pressure now as a result of the changes in government policy announced recently. While we understand that a reappraisal of the funding schemes was necessary in light of the severe budget reductions required at the central government level, it is highly regrettable that with the introduction of the *generic* "Top Sectors and TKI" policy, all successful *specific* funding schemes addressing the needs of industry and the need to enhance the Dutch knowledge infrastructure have been discontinued. The Top Sector/TKI policy will certainly make some contribution to maintaining polymer expertise and employment in the Netherlands, but the accelerated reduction of government funding for DPI will have a significant negative impact on the field.

### Serious consequences

Although we continue to have the financial commitment of our industrial partners, the reduction in government funding has severely affected DPI's financial position. It has necessitated some drastic cost-reduction measures, including suspension of vacancies and cancellation of equipment orders for DPI research projects. We are also not entering into any new project or programme commitments. While these measures were unavoidable in the given circumstances, they form a serious threat to the continuation of a proven collaborative platform that caters to the long-term needs of industry through a strategic research programme carried out by top-class research groups in the Netherlands and abroad.

Both our academic partners and our industrial partners recognize the importance of such a bridging role. In general, DPI research programmes have led to a greater academic effort in polymer science research than would have been possible without such a collaborative platform. And it has enabled a collaborative approach to challenges that extend beyond companies' individual innovation portfolios. To our partners, being a partner in DPI has meant participating in an active community of businesses and knowledge institutions which, thanks to a network-

based virtual set-up with an international reach, offers its partners a variety of benefits: flexibility and responsiveness in project organisation and execution, a choice of the best available competences from across the world, high-quality research carried out in a programme-based framework assuring coherence and a long-term dimension. In addition, via the DPI Value Centre, we maintain a strong link with the downstream polymer industry. The Polymer Value Chain Projects launched by DPI and DPI Value Centre in 2012 are proving to be successful enablers of collaboration in innovation among players in the polymer value chain.

### International partnerships

Our international dimension is one of our key strengths. With a substantial part of the world's polymer expertise being located in Western Europe, DPI has been able to fulfil a successful international role because of its well-established national and regional position. The international dimension is not only important to our partners; it also offers clear benefits for the knowledge infrastructure in the Netherlands. Over the past fifteen years, the revenues that DPI has been able to generate through its partnerships in other countries have had a positive impact on the volume and quality of academic research in the Netherlands. Moreover, bilateral partnerships between foreign

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DPI TEAM – Top row: Thomas Manders, Peter Nossin, John van Haare, Christianne Bastiaens and Peter Kuppens. Second row: Renée Hoogers, Sherida Koenders, Miranda Heuvelmans, Jacques Joosten and Jeanne van Asperdt. Third row: Jan Stamhuis, Rosanne Peters, Denka Hristova-Bogaerds and Ronald Korstanje. Fourth row: Monique Bruining and Mercedes Crego Calama. Absent in this picture: Sybrand van der Zwaag and Angela Looymans.







companies and Dutch universities have sprouted from the fertile ground laid by the DPI network. Also, the presence of DPI and the active polymer network around it has encouraged a number of foreign companies to set up operations in the Netherlands. And just as important: our international dimension offers a wider platform for knowledge exchange and access to the talent pools of other countries.

In 2013, we made further progress in extending our international reach. At the European level, we took further steps towards establishing collaborations with Flanders (Flemish-speaking Belgium) and the German state of North-Rhine Westphalia. We have already signed a letter of intent with partners in Flanders and we expect to do the same in North-Rhine Westphalia soon. These collaborations across three European countries will not only strengthen our network in the Euregion, but will also enable us to link up better with the EU and its Horizon2020 programme.

In China, we entered into a partnership with a second university: Tsinghua University in Beijing, the country's No. 1 university. And our efforts in Brazil have resulted in the formation of a consortium in which DPI joined forces with the Eindhoven University of Technology and the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development of Brazil (CNPq).

Our partnerships with Chinese players are important for our partners in Europe, who are keen to tap into the growing pool of young Chinese scientists, as well as our partners in China, for whom such partnerships can be helpful in achieving their growing international ambitions. For businesses and universities in Brazil, working together with partners in Europe means an opportunity to acquire knowledge in the field of polymers and explore the possibilities for their attractive raw materials position in biomass in light of Europe's steadily depleting fossil-based resources.

Although our international activities remain of crucial importance, for the time being our financial situation will not leave

us enough room to continue to expand our international base to the same extent as before. This also means that for the time being we are unable to follow up the successful pilot Networking Event we organised in Shanghai, China in November 2013 in cooperation with Teijin Aramid Asia, SABIC and International Top Talent (ITT).

#### Scientific quality

DPI continues to deliver a high volume of scientific output of a consistently high quality recognized by the international scientific community. In 2013, DPI projects resulted in 21 PhD theses and 170 scientific papers published by researchers working on DPI projects. At 4.70, our average Journal Impact Factor for 2013 remained at the high level sustained over the past several years.

DPI scientists and DPI projects are regularly honoured with international acclaim. Worthy of special mention here is SHINE, a EU Seventh Framework project that is being coordinated by DPI and in which a consortium of two universities, four research centres, four large industrial companies and two SMEs are working together to develop self-healing innovative elastomers. The EU has selected SHINE as one of the success stories in FP7.

DPI research programmes offer PhD students the opportunity to work on industrially relevant topics and to gain experience in working to both academic and industry standards and requirements. This makes for a smooth transition of well-trained scientists to the labour market. In 2013, 45 new well-trained scientists became available for the polymer sector. Many of these entered into the employment of DPI's industrial and academic partners.

Under the leadership of Professor Martien Cohen Stuart, who retired as Scientific Director of DPI at the beginning of this year, DPI was able to boost the high scientific quality and reputation it has enjoyed worldwide. We would like to thank Professor Cohen Stuart for his strong commitment and dedicated efforts. Our thanks also go to Professor Claus Eisenbach, who retired as Scientific Chairman of our Coatings Technology

research area, for the guidance and inspiration he gave to our research programme in this area.

#### The future of DPI

DPI has been successful so far thanks to the Dutch government's financial support and the commitment and contributions from our industrial and academic partners worldwide. We believe that the bridging role that DPI has played has made a major contribution to new developments in polymers and a dynamic knowledge infrastructure in the Netherlands. We are now in discussion with other parties to see if we can find additional funding at the national, regional and international level. Backed by the continued support of our partners, which we now need more than ever before, we hope to be able to safeguard this essential role for the benefit of the polymer sector.

Jacques Joosten – Managing Director



Sybrand van der Zwaag – Scientific Director



DPI VALUE CENTRE TEAM – Top row: [Johan Tiesnitsch](#) and [Jos Lobée](#).  
Second row: [Eelco Rietveld](#), [Peter Nossin](#), [Bart van den Berg](#), [Arie Brouwer](#) and [Louis Jetten](#).  
Third row: [Ineke Laeven](#), [Judith Tesser](#), [Martin van Dord](#), [Peter Koppert](#), [Gerrie Verhoeven](#) and [Coco Lenssen](#).







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# Organisation 2013

## Supervisory Board

- **Dr. H.M.H. van Wechem**, *Chairman*
- **Dr. J.A. Roos**
- **Prof.dr. C.J. van Duijn**
- **Dr. F. Kuijpers**
- **Prof. K.C.A.M. Luyben**
- **Dr. M. Wubbolts**

## Council of Participants

- **Prof.dr. G. ten Brinke**  
*University of Groningen, Chairman*

## Scientific Reference Committee

- **Prof.dr. A.J. Schouten**  
*University of Groningen, Chairman*
- **Prof.dr. L. Leibler**  
*Ecole Supérieure Physique et Chimie Industrielles, Paris*
- **Prof.dr. H. Siringhaus**  
*University of Cambridge*
- **Prof.dr. B. Voit**  
*Institut für Polymerforschung, Dresden*

## Executive Board

- **Dr. J.G.H. Joosten**  
*Managing Director, Chairman*
- **Prof.dr. M.A. Cohen Stuart**  
*Scientific Director (until 31-12- 2013)*
- **Prof.dr. S. van der Zwaag**  
*Scientific Director (from 01-01-2014)*

## Programme Area Coordinators

- **Dr. M.J. Bruining**  
*Corporate Research*
- **Dr. M. Crego Calama**  
*High-Throughput Experimentation, Coatings Technology*
- **Dr. J.A.E.H. van Haare**  
*Functional Polymer Systems, Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics*
- **R.J. Korstanje, MSc**  
*Performance Polymers*
- **Dr. P.M.M. Nossin**  
*Bio-Inspired Polymers*
- **Dr. J.E. Stamhuis**  
*Polyolefins, Enhanced Oil Recovery, Emerging Technologies*

## Scientific Programme Chairmen

- **Prof.dr. V. Busico**  
*Polyolefins*
- **Prof.dr. C. Creton**  
*Performance Polymers*
- **Prof.dr. F. de Schryver**  
*Functional Polymer Systems and Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics*
- **Prof.dr. C.D. Eisenbach**  
*Coatings Technology*
- **Prof.dr. U.S. Schubert**  
*High-Throughput Experimentation*
- **Prof.dr. G. Eggink**  
*Bio-Inspired Polymers*
- **Prof.dr. M.A. Cohen Stuart**  
*Corporate Research and Emerging Technologies*

## PERSONNEL CHANGES AT DPI

DPI saw several changes in its personnel in 2013. A short overview is given below.

Jacques Joosten, whose tenure as Managing Director of DPI ended in April 2014, will continue to hold this position. His tenure has been extended for at least another two years.

As of 1 January 2014, Sybrand van der Zwaag took up the role of Scientific Director of DPI, succeeding Martien Cohen Stuart, who stepped down as Scientific Director having reached retirement age. See pages 11 and 21 for more information.

Professor Gerrit ten Brinke of the University of Groningen, who was Chair of DPI's Council of Participants, has stepped down from this position. DPI is currently looking for a successor.

Professor Claus Eisenbach, Scientific Chairman of the Coatings Technology research area, retired in 2013. DPI is currently looking for a successor.

Harold Gankema, Programme Area Coordinator for Coatings Technology and High-Throughput Experimentation and project leader of the European SHINE project, left DPI in February 2013. His role as Programme Area Coordinator has been taken over by Dr. Mercedes Crego Calama, who joined DPI in March 2013. The new coordinator for the SHINE project is Ronald Korstanje, who joined DPI in March 2013.

Jan Stamhuis has handed over his role as Programme Area Coordinator for Performance Polymers to Ronald Korstanje.

John van Haare, Ronald Korstanje and Denka Hristova-Bogaerds have each been given the responsibility to coordinate an EU project.

Shila de Vries, responsible for Legal and IP Affairs at DPI, left DPI in March 2013 to take up a new position elsewhere.

## Organisation Staff

- **A.F.J. van Asperdt** - *Fin. Administration*
- **C.H.L.M. Bastiaens** - *Communications*
- **Dr. M.J. Bruining** - *General Affairs*
- **M.M.G. Heuvelmans** - *Fin. Administration*
- **R.P.F. Hoogers-Valken** - *Secretariat*
- **S.G. Koenders** - *Project Administration*
- **P.J.J. Kuppens, AA** - *Controlling*
- **A.C.M. Looymans** - *Project Administration*

## Staff European projects

- **Dr. J.A.E.H. van Haare**  
*Project Manager SEAFRONT*
- **Dr. D.G. Hristova-Bogaerds**  
*Project Manager COMPANOCOMP*
- **R.J. Korstanje, MSc**  
*Project Manager SHINE*
- **A.M.G. Steinmann**  
*EU-SEAFRONT Project Office*

# DPI: International Centre of Excellence in Polymers

In the last few years DPI has transformed itself into an International Centre of Excellence in Polymers. To achieve that goal, the institute has expanded its pre-competitive research programme with projects focussing on pre-commercial and societal themes.

## PRE-COMPETITIVE PROGRAMME

DPI Rules & regulations apply to all projects						
Polyolefins	Performance Polymers	Functional Polymer Systems	Coatings Technology			
<b>30 projects</b>	<b>29 projects</b>	<b>22 projects</b>	<b>10 projects</b>			
<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borealis</li> <li>• Braskem</li> <li>• Dow Benelux</li> <li>• DSM</li> <li>• ExxonMobil</li> <li>• ITRI</li> <li>• Lanxess Elastomers</li> <li>• LyondellBasell</li> <li>• Petrobras</li> <li>• Sabic</li> <li>• SCG Chemicals</li> <li>• Sinopec</li> <li>• Symyx</li> <li>• Teijin Aramid</li> <li>• Ticona</li> <li>• Freeslate</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consorzio Interuniversitario Nazionale per la Scienza e Tecnologia dei Materiali (INSTM)</li> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• ESPCE-Lyon</li> <li>• Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF</li> <li>• Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology</li> <li>• Johann Kepler University Linz</li> <li>• Karlsruhe Institute of Technology</li> <li>• Loughborough University</li> <li>• Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg</li> <li>• National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)</li> <li>• Polymer Technology Group Eindhoven</li> <li>• Queens University</li> <li>• Radboud University Nijmegen</li> <li>• UFRGS Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul</li> <li>• Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro</li> <li>• University of Amsterdam</li> <li>• University of Antwerp</li> <li>• University of Erlangen</li> <li>• University of Manitoba</li> <li>• University of Naples Federico II</li> <li>• University of Ottawa</li> <li>• University of Perugia</li> <li>• University of Salerno</li> <li>• University of Turin</li> <li>• University of Udine</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AkzoNobel</li> <li>• BASF</li> <li>• Bayer</li> <li>• Bekaert</li> <li>• DSM</li> <li>• Sabic</li> <li>• SKF</li> <li>• Teijin Aramid</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNRS Strasbourg</li> <li>• Delft University of Technology</li> <li>• DWI an der RWTH Aachen</li> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF</li> <li>• National Technical University of Athens</li> <li>• University of Groningen</li> <li>• University of Twente</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BASF</li> <li>• DSM</li> <li>• ECN</li> <li>• Industrial Technology Research Institute Taiwan</li> <li>• Philips</li> <li>• Rolic Technologies</li> <li>• Sabic</li> <li>• Solvay</li> <li>• TNO</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AkzoNobel</li> <li>• Altana</li> <li>• DSM</li> <li>• Lawter</li> <li>• Saint-Gobain</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry</li> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• University of Haute-Alsace</li> <li>• Wageningen University</li> </ul>
Expenditure € 2.69 million FTEs 29.8 (51 researchers)	Expenditure € 1.49 million FTEs 13.9 (20 researchers)	Expenditure € 1.40 million FTEs 12.1 (27 researchers)	Expenditure € 1.04 million FTEs 13.5 (17 researchers)			



## Pre-competitive research programme

DPI's pre-competitive research programme currently embraces ten technology areas. Companies and knowledge institutes can participate in one or more of these areas, each of which encompasses a substantial number of projects. The participating companies jointly define the programmes for the specific technology areas in which they participate. PhD students and post-docs from our partner knowledge institutes perform their research in close

collaboration with scientists from our industrial partners. Shaping that collaboration between industry and academia is the key to building a coherent community that delivers the research results to the envisaged high standard and prepares our scientists for their future careers, in industry or elsewhere.

The interaction between academic researchers and industrial scientists takes various forms. Each project team submits quarterly reports to DPI, while twice a year every researcher also gives a presentation

for all of the partners in the specific technology area to highlight and explain its research results. This enables DPI to monitor, evaluate and steer the projects. The research results are shared within the technology area and all of the partners are free to use the knowledge that is acquired, with the exception of knowledge that is part of an invention. When an invention is reported and partners are interested in using that knowledge, DPI files a patent application and the industrial partners involved in that specific technology area have the first claim to it.

### DPI Rules & regulations apply to all projects

High-Throughput Experimentation	Bio-Inspired Polymers	Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics	Emerging Technologies	Corporate Research
<b>6 projects</b>	<b>8 projects</b>	<b>9 projects</b>	<b>1 project</b>	<b>25 projects</b>
<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chemspeed</li> <li>Evonik</li> <li>Forschungsgesellschaft Kunststoffe</li> <li>Michelin</li> <li>Microdrop Technologies</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food and Biobased Research, Wageningen UR</li> <li>FrieslandCampina</li> <li>Petrobras</li> <li>Sabic</li> <li>Teijin Aramid</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSM</li> <li>Philips</li> <li>Solvay</li> <li>TNO</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DPI partners</li> <li>M2i partners</li> </ul> <b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delft University of Technology</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All DPI partners take part in Corporate Research</li> </ul>
<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF</li> <li>Friedrich-Schiller University, Jena</li> <li>Radboud University</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>Food and Biobased Research, Wageningen UR</li> <li>Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena</li> <li>National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)</li> <li>Tsinghua University</li> <li>Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>Imperial College London</li> <li>Max Planck Institute für Polymerforschung</li> <li>University of Algarve</li> <li>University of Groningen</li> <li>University of Twente</li> <li>University of Wuppertal</li> </ul>	<b>Enhanced Oil Recovery</b> <b>3 projects</b> <b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shell</li> <li>SNF</li> </ul> <b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delft University of Technology</li> <li>University of Groningen</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delft University of Technology</li> <li>Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>ESRF, Grenoble</li> <li>Foundation for fundamental research on matter (FOM)</li> <li>Radboud University</li> <li>TI Food and Nutrition (TIFN)</li> <li>University of Groningen</li> <li>University of Twente</li> <li>Wageningen University</li> </ul>
Expenditure €0.72 million FTEs 7.1 (13 researchers)	Expenditure € 1.20 million FTEs 8.8 (19 researchers)	Expenditure € 1.12 million FTEs 12.1 (16 researchers)	Expenditure € 0.30 million FTEs 3.9 (5 researchers)	Expenditure € 1.40 million FTEs 16.1 (17 researchers)

## Industrial pre-commercial programme

The industrial pre-commercial programme consist of Value Chain projects and EU projects. The conditions for performing Value Chain projects are described below and those of EU projects are generally known and are available on the web.

The Value Chain projects offer companies and/or research institutes the opportunity to establish consortia for innovation projects, in which they collaborate within the value chain. Every partner plays an active role in the project, which must be aimed at further development of the innovation. The projects are intended to

generate economic activity within the foreseeable future (i.e., no later than two to five years after completion of the project).

DPI's role is to actively assist in establishing the collaboration between the partners and to coordinate the project. DPI can also act as coordinator of a project. Particularly when SMEs are involved, DPI works together with the DPI Value Centre.

DPI provides a model framework for the collaboration, but the detailed rules are agreed between the members of the consortium. As regards intellectual property, the basic principle is that the knowledge created during the course of

the project (foreground knowledge) is the property of the inventing partner, and any background knowledge contributed to the project remains the property of the partner that provided it. Other partners have free access to the knowledge contributed to and/or generated during the project, but only to the extent necessary for developments in the project. Specific agreements are made to enable access to another partner's IP for commercial application of the knowledge outside the project.

### PRE-COMMERCIAL PROGRAMME

Model framework for collaboration			
Rules and regulations set by involved partners	Rules and regulations set by involved partners	Rules and regulations set by involved partners	Rules and regulations set by involved partners
<b>CompNanoComp</b> (1-10-2011/ 30-9-2014)	<b>SHINE</b> (1-2-2013/31-7-2016)	<b>SEAFRONT</b> (1-1-2014/31-12-2017)	<b>Value Chain projects</b>
<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPI</li> <li>• Rhodia</li> <li>• National Technical University of Athens</li> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique - Laboratoire Polymères et Matériaux Avancés</li> <li>• General Electric</li> <li>• European Centre for Nanostructured Polymers</li> <li>• University of Ulm</li> <li>• Lomonosov Moscow State University</li> <li>• Institute of Macromolecular Compounds St. Petersburg</li> <li>• National Research Centre Kurchatov Institute</li> <li>• Phys Chem Ltd</li> </ul>	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPI</li> <li>• Acciona Infraestructuras</li> <li>• Arkema</li> <li>• BIWI SA</li> <li>• Cidetec</li> <li>• Critical Materials</li> <li>• ESPCI ParisTech</li> <li>• Forschungszentrum Jülich</li> <li>• Fraunhofer UMSICHT</li> <li>• MTA-TTK</li> <li>• SKF Engineering &amp; Research Centre</li> <li>• Teijin Aramid</li> <li>• Delft University of Technology</li> </ul>	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPI</li> <li>• International Paint Ltd</li> <li>• Fraunhofer IFAM</li> <li>• I-Tech AB</li> <li>• University of Newcastle upon Tyne</li> <li>• Minesto AB</li> <li>• Solvay Specialty Polymers</li> <li>• Delft University of Technology</li> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• University of Bristol</li> <li>• Val FoU</li> <li>• Biotrend</li> <li>• BioLog</li> <li>• University of Gothenburg</li> <li>• Bio-On</li> <li>• Bluewater Energy Services</li> <li>• Smartcom Software</li> <li>• Solintel</li> <li>• Hapag Lloyd</li> </ul>	<b>Projects</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next Generation Valve</li> <li>• KeyKeg HD</li> <li>• Kunstof pallets uit gemengde reststromen</li> <li>• Closing the loop with biobased Carpet</li> <li>• De ontwikkeling van biobitumen op basis van hoogwaardig hergebruik van bio(afval)stromen</li> <li>• AM medical textiles</li> <li>• Hoogwaardig gegoten PMMA Plaat (HGPP)</li> <li>• Flame retardant glass-filled high heat PLA compounds for injection molding for application in household appliances</li> <li>• Antifogging additives for polymer films</li> <li>• Introductie van poedercoating-technologie op pilotschaal in toepassingen op ondergronden zoals kunststof en hout</li> <li>• Wicker 2.0</li> <li>• Biofilm</li> <li>• Magneto-Rheological Elastomers technology and product development, stage 1: feasibility study</li> </ul>
Budget €2.2 million (€1.5 million EU subsidy)	Budget €6.4 million (€4.0 million EU subsidy)	Budget €11.2 million (€8.0 million EU subsidy)	



## Projects driven by societal themes

DPI is confronted with new demands from society in relation to scientific research into polymers. A major international issue is that of 'plastic soup', the vast volumes of plastic waste that accumulate in certain areas of the oceans and seas and harm the ecosystem. DPI has become increasingly aware in recent years that companies, knowledge institutions and the government are not its only stakeholders. Society at large can also benefit from the knowledge and expertise generated by the DPI community as a source of possible solutions for societal issues such as 'plastic soup'.

### SOCIETAL PROGRAMME

#### Plastic Marine Litter (to prevent plastic from ending up in the oceans)

Start date 1-9-2012

##### Partners

- DPI
- DPI Value Centre
- IMSA
- Stichting De Noordzee
- University Utrecht
- Kruidenier Foodservices
- SABIC
- Van Gansewinkel

## DPI HIGHLIGHTS

### DPI Invention Award

The DPI Invention Award 2013 was granted to Dr. Rob Duchateau in recognition of his scientific output in the last few years and for his application of fundamental knowledge as a catalyst for various polymer processes and properties. The award was presented to Dr. Duchateau at the European Polymer Congress 2013 in Pisa, Italy. The DPI Invention Award is granted every two years to a researcher from the DPI network who has made a significant contribution to the development of polymer research and technology in Europe and enabled scientific knowledge to be quickly converted into industrial applications. Previous winners of the award were Professor D.J. Broer and Dr. C.W.M. Bastiaansen (2007), Professor U.S. Schubert (2009) and Professor C.E. Koning (2011).

### DPI Golden Thesis Award

The DPI Golden Thesis Award 2013 was granted to Nicole Franssen for her thesis entitled "Functional (Co)polymers from Carbenes – Scope, Mechanism and Polymer Properties". Nicole did her PhD work at the University of Amsterdam under the supervision of Prof. Bas de Bruin. The other two candidates were: Jeroen Cottaar ("Modeling of charge-transport processes for predictive simulation of OLEDs", Eindhoven University

of Technology) and Danqing Liu ("Responsive Surface Topographies", Eindhoven University of Technology). The award was presented during the DPI Annual Meeting 2013 in Arnhem on 5 November.

### New Scientific Director in 2014

As of 1 January 2014, Professor Sybrand van der Zwaag took up the role of Scientific Director of DPI. He succeeded Martien Cohen Stuart, who stepped down as Scientific Director having reached retirement age. In his capacity as Scientific Director, Sybrand Van der Zwaag is responsible for DPI's scientific quality and reputation.

Sybrand van der Zwaag (1955) holds an MSc degree in metallurgy from the Delft University of Technology (Netherlands) and a PhD in applied physics from Cambridge University (UK) for his research on supersonic impact on ceramics. After a post-doc position related to metallic glasses he joined Akzo Nobel Corporate Research in 1982 to work on the structure-property relationships for aramid and other high performance polymeric fibres. In 1987 he joined Akzo Fibre research to work on process innovations for aramid fibres. In 1992 he was appointed Professor of Microstructural Control in Metals at the Delft University of Technology, where he investigated fundamental aspects of solid state phase transformations in steel and aluminium for a more solid scientific basis

to industrial process models. In 2003 he took up the Chair in Novel Aerospace Materials at the same university, working on the design of new materials for future aircraft and spacecraft. The NovAM research portfolio covers advanced polymers, self-healing materials, new metallic systems and polymer based sensorial composites.

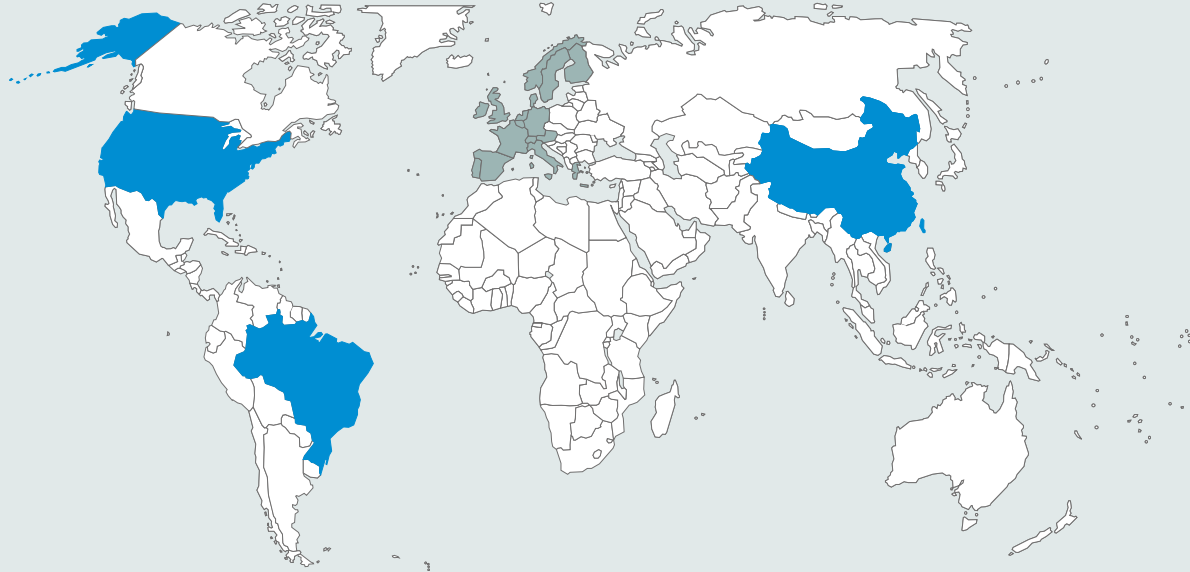
Professor van der Zwaag is a member of the Royal Holland Society of Sciences and Humanities and a fellow of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM3). He is the scientific director of the Delft Centre for Materials, chairman of the national IOP research program on self-healing materials in the Netherlands and co-director of the German program in this field. He has published almost 400 journal publications and has supervised 38 PhD students.

In 2012 he was awarded the honorary title of 'Distinguished Professor' by the Board of the Delft University of Technology in recognition of his contribution to the interaction between academic research and industry in the field of materials in general and that of self-healing materials in particular. He remains deeply interested in the challenge of combining academic science with industrial needs and vice versa.

**Martien Cohen Stuart** wrote a personal note. See page 21.

# Partners Industry 2013

## North and South America, Asia








## Europe



	Altana
 The Chemical Company	BASF
	Bayer
 better together	Bekaert
 SHAPING the FUTURE with PLASTICS	Borealis
	Celanese
	Chemspeed Technologies
	Evonik
	Forschungsgesellschaft Kunststoffe


















	Accelrys
	Braskem
	ExxonMobil
	Freeslate
	Industrial Technology Research Institute Taiwan
	Petrobras
	SCG-Chemicals (new in 2013)
	Sinopec

## The Netherlands

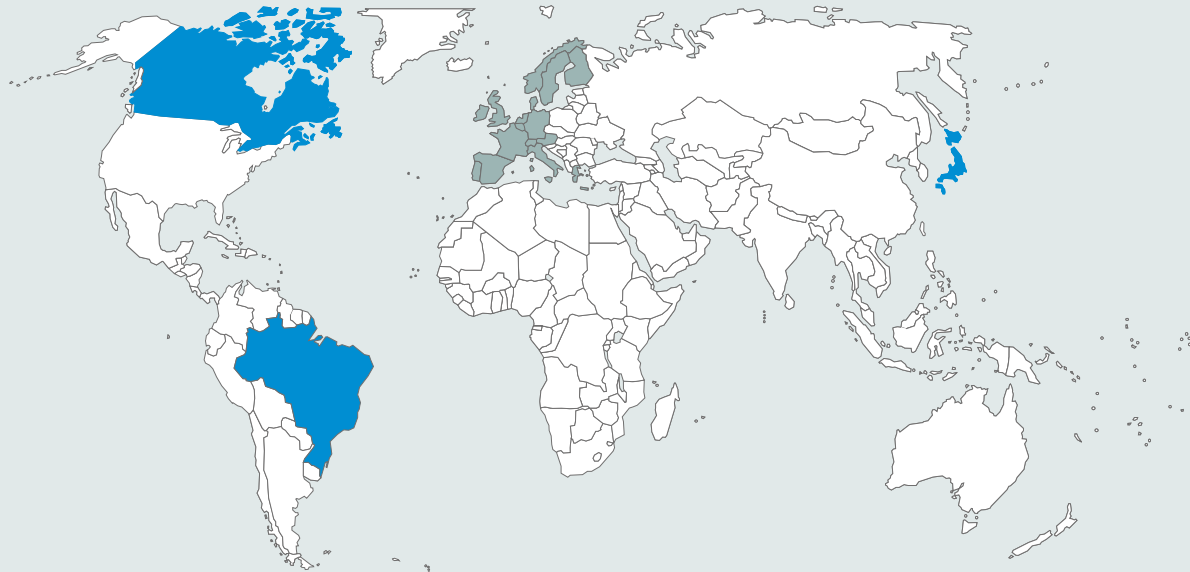


	LyondellBasell
	Michelin
	Microdrop Technologies
	Rolic Technologies
	Saint-Gobain
	SKF
	SNF Floerger
	Solvay

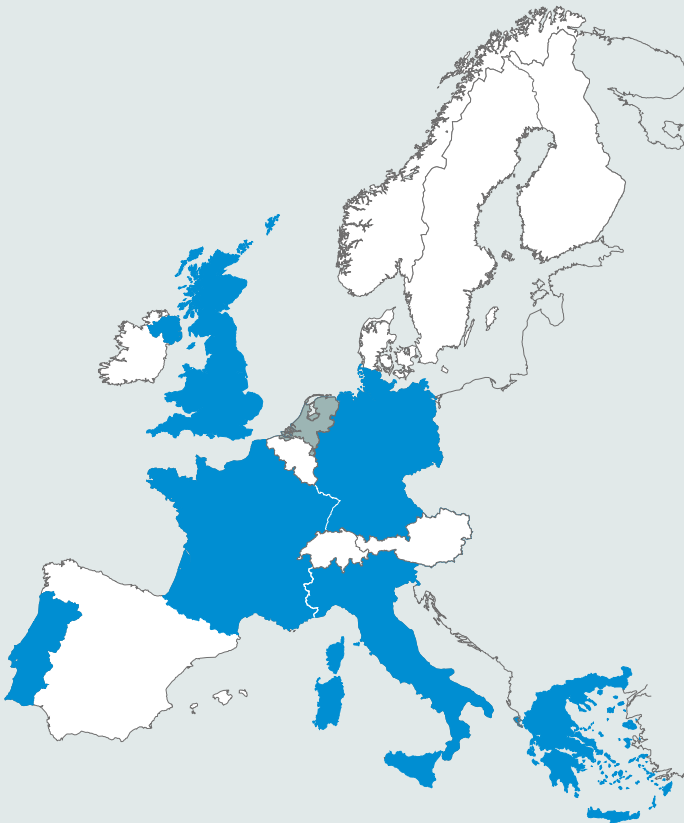
	AkzoNobel
	Dow Benelux
	DSM
	ECN
	Food and Biobased Research Wageningen UR
	FrieslandCampina
	Lanxess Elastomers
	Lawter
	Philips
	Sabic
	Shell
	Teijin Aramid
	TNO

# Partners Knowledge institutes 2013

## North and South America, Asia




## Europe



	CNRS Strasbourg <i>(new in 2013)</i>
	INSTM <i>(new in 2013)</i>
	DWI an der RWTH Aachen
	ESCPE-Lyon
	ESRF, Grenoble
	Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF
	Friedrich-Schiller-University, Jena
	Imperial College London
	Johann Kepler University Linz <i>(new in 2013)</i>
	Karlsruhe Institute of Technology <i>(new in 2013)</i>
	Leibniz-Institut für Polymerforschung Dresden <i>(No research projects in 2013)</i>
	Loughborough University
	Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg
	Max-Planck Institute für Polymer Forschung





	Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry (new in 2013)
	Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
	National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (new in 2013)
	Queens University
	Tsinghua University (new in 2013)
	UFRGS Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (new in 2013)
	Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (new in 2013)
	University of Manitoba
	University of Ottawa

## The Netherlands



	Nanoforce Technology
	National Technical University of Athens
	Queen Mary & Westfield College, Uni. of London (No research projects in 2013)
	University of Algarve
	University of Antwerp
	University of Cologne (No research projects in 2013)
	University of Erlangen (new in 2013)
	University of Haute-Alsace
	University of Naples Federico II
	University of Perugia
	University of Salerno (No research projects in 2013)
	University of Turin (new in 2013)
	University of Udine
	University of Wuppertal

	Delft University of Technology
	ECN
	Eindhoven University of Technology
	FOM
	Food and Biobased Research Wageningen UR
	NWO
	Polymer Technology Group Eindhoven
	Radboud University Nijmegen
	University of Amsterdam
	University of Groningen
	University of Twente
	Wageningen University

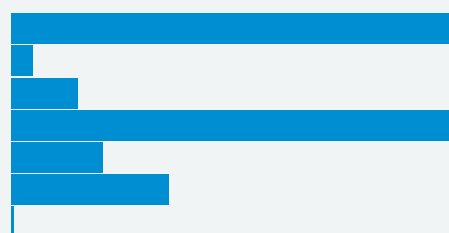
# Summary of financial data 2013

## Income

	(x EUR million)	%
Contributions from industrial partners	3.92	11.6
In-kind contributions from industrial partners	11.54	34.1
Revenue Patents	0.03	0.1
Revenue DPI Value Centre	0.62	1.8
Contributions from knowledge institutes	3.16	9.3
Contributions from Ministry of EA	9.00	26.6
EU FP7 projects	2.37	7.0
Industrial pre-commercial research programme Value Chain	3.13	9.3
Solving societal themes and challenges	0.04	0.1
<b>Total income</b>	<b>33.81</b>	<b>100</b>

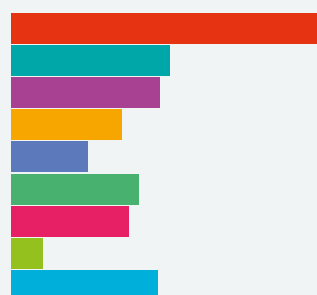
## Expenditure

	(x EUR million)	%
<b>By nature</b>		
Personnel costs	11.95	36.5
Depreciation	0.58	1.8
Other costs	1.78	5.4
In-kind contribution	11.73	35.8
EU FP7 projects	2.45	7.5
Industrial pre-commercial research programme Value Chain	4.22	12.9
Solving societal themes and challenges	0.01	0.0
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>32.72</b>	<b>100</b>



## By Technology Area

Polyolefins	2.96	25.5
Performance Polymers	1.49	12.8
Functional Polymer Systems	1.40	12.0
Coatings Technology	1.04	8.9
High-Throughput Experimentation	0.72	6.2
Bio-Inspired Polymers	1.20	10.3
Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics	1.12	9.6
Enhance Oil Recovery	0.30	2.6
Corporate Research	1.40	12.0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>11.63</b>	<b>100</b>



Knowledge Workers Scheme	0.11
Knowledge Transfer	0.53
Organisation and support	1.40
Support to DPI Value Centre	0.47
In-kind contribution	11.73
EU FP7 projects	4.22
Industrial pre-commercial research programme Value Chain	2.45
Solving societal themes and challenges plus Geographical outreach	0.18

**Total expenditure 32.72**

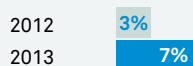


# Key Performance Indicators 2013

## Number of industrial partners



## European governmental funding (% of total funding)



## Number of partner knowledge institutes (universities, etc.)



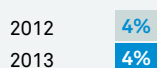
## Participation of foreign knowledge institutes as % of total expenditure



## Industrial contribution (cash and in-kind) as % of total income



## Overhead costs as % of total expenditure



## Contribution Ministry of Economic Affairs as % of total income



## Expenditure for knowledge transfer x EUR million



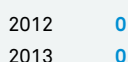
## Number of patents filed by DPI



## Track record DPI researchers

Left in total	45
Employed by partner knowledge institute	18
Employed by non-partner knowledge institute	6
Employed by partner industrial company	10
Employed by non-partner industrial company or start-up	8
Unknown	3

## Number of patents licensed or transferred to industrial partners and DPI Value Centre



## Research output

Scientific publications	2012	159	2013	170
PhD theses	2012	37	2013	21

Interest shown by industrial partners	5
Interest shown by university partners	2
Interest shown by DPI Value Centre	7

Number of patents to be transferred 0

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# The added value of innovation in polymers

## 100th Start-up

For DPI Value Centre, 2013 was a year of many high points and many new exciting challenges going forward. In November we signed a contract with the 100th start-up: we will be supporting the innovation efforts of Nutripol, a new player in bio-degradable packaging. This collaboration is yet another example showing that new entrepreneurs recognise the added value of teaming up with DPI Value Centre. We are able to fulfill this role by combining our intimate knowledge of the polymer market with our strong connections in the polymer network and our entrepreneurial approach. The start-ups are happy to have a sparring partner who knows their business and with whom they can discuss their challenges and concerns. Our aim is to help companies realize their business ambitions in the field of polymers to innovate better and faster and thus enhance their chances to be successful in the market.

## Active SME participation

Most of the companies participating in the Value Chain Projects launched recently

were represented at the project meetings we organized in 2013. Once again, this shows that the SME community recognises the benefits of working with DPI Value Centre. Business people, especially in the SME segment, are busy and need to spend most of their time with their day-to-day production operations, which are the source of their income. The Value Chain Projects are enabling them to work together on challenging innovation projects. This, as the participants themselves put it, accelerates innovation: "Companies that did not know each other turn out to form a good match; they share the same priorities and contribute their specific expertise to achieve a common goal within the set period of time. Just the right partners, with just the right targets."

## Expanding collaboration

2013 was also the year in which DPI Value Centre formalised its regional approach. With the support of the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, DPI Value Centre has further expanded its activities in the Netherlands. We team up with three other specialised, independent organisations

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POLYMER INNOVATION DAY 2013

Business market



active in the fields of Processing (ISPT), Bio-Based Economy (BBE) and New Chemical Innovations (NCI). Together we have formed one network to stimulate and support SME's and entrepreneurs with innovations in the chemical industry including materials. The formal launch of this network, called Top Chemie Δ, took place in April 2013. The network collaborates strongly with strategic regional partners such as Centres of Open Chemical Innovation (COCI). In Geleen, Bergen op Zoom and Zwolle, these collaborations will improve interaction with SME's across the chemical industry. Regional players such as academic innovation labs, business development companies and provincial governments have also been involved. All this is expected to result in the creation of a network of experts that can advise and support entrepreneurs. The added value of the Top Chemie Δ network, which will supplement the existing Syntens Innovatiecentra network now forming part of the Chamber of Commerce, is that it will bring in specific knowledge, expertise and valuable contacts from the sector.

### Collaborating on sustainability

'From waste to raw material: closing the raw materials chain'. This is the title of a study commissioned by the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment into the possibility of setting up an innovation and education agenda for the rubber and plastics industry. Issues to be addressed include matters such as the improvement of recycle quality in order to enable more realistic specifications for the manufacture of plastic products. How can we enable the reuse of rigid plastic products in high performance applications? How can we successfully recycle thermoplastic composites and rubbers? What viable business models are there for doing this profitably? And, finally, what will the recycling plant of the future be like? "This is only a preliminary study," says project leader Louis Jetten, "we are now preparing for the next phase to continue this research". A large number of plastics and rubber companies as well as knowledge institutes participated in the study.



### 100th START-UP Nutripol

DPI Value Centre will continue to work along the lines that have proved successful so far. We are happy that our regional presence makes us even more accessible to SME's. This year, we will start collaborating with the Energy Top Sector network in the Netherlands, thus gaining access to the special expertise and knowledge of that sector. We will continue in our efforts to enhance our market profile. In this regard, our close cooperation with DPI, NRK (the Federation of the Rubber and Plastics Industry in the Netherlands) and Modint (Trade association of manufacturers, importers, agents and wholesalers of clothing, fashion accessories, carpet and (interior) textiles) is very important. We believe that materials play an essential role in product development in today's world. We want to enable ambitious entrepreneurs to take part in and benefit from the innovation dynamic that characterizes our network. And we know that once entrepreneurs have found their way to DPI Value Centre, they will come to us again – and again.

**Arie Brouwer**  
Managing Director, DPI Value Centre



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## European project: SEAFRONT

The third European project coordinated by DPI within the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission started in January 2014. The goal of the SEAFRONT (Synergistic Fouling Control Technologies) project is to develop environmentally friendly coatings which prevent the undesirable accumulation of marine organisms on boats, ships, tidal power plants, fisheries and other aquatic installations. The coatings will be designed to improve operational efficiency, substantially reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and have no negative impact on the marine ecosystem. DPI and AkzoNobel are the main contractors of the EU project.

### New coatings

The fouling control coatings to be developed within the project will not leach chemical or other harmful substances that are non-biodegradable in the marine environment. In addition, the coatings will reduce the hydrodynamic resistance of ships and boats, decreasing fuel consumption and thus substantially reducing

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Finally, the new coatings will lead to considerable savings in operational costs by improving the efficiency of tidal power installations and reducing the frequency of maintenance and cleaning in off-shore infrastructure and aquaculture applications.

### Project team

The SEAFRONT project will be implemented within the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) under the Ocean of Tomorrow call. Five multinationals, seven SMEs and seven research institutes spread across eight EU Member States will work together to achieve the goals within the four-year timeframe. DPI is the project coordinator and International Paint Ltd., a business unit of AkzoNobel and a world leader in the field of fouling control coatings, will bring any new coatings based on technology developed within the project to the market. In focusing on the delivery of sustainable products and solutions, the goals of this project perfectly match the strategic ambitions

of AkzoNobel. The project budget amounts to 11.2 million Euros including 8 million Euros from the European Commission.

### Scope

In addition to the development of environmentally friendly coatings, SEAFRONT aims to significantly enhance the fundamental understanding of fouling organisms and the mechanisms of settlement and adhesion. Particular attention will be paid to a better understanding of marine bio-film or so-called marine slime. This part of the research will be led by Professor Tony Clare of Newcastle University (UK), an internationally renowned marine biologist. The insights gained in these studies will enable SEAFRONT to develop concepts and technologies for enhanced performance, the ultimate goal being a completely non-fouling surface.

More information about this project can be found on the website:

[www.seafront-project.eu](http://www.seafront-project.eu)

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## European project: SHINE

SHINE is a Seventh Framework Programme project which aims for the development of self-healing elastomers for dynamic seals and vibration and noise abatement systems. It will consider the concept on the basis of covalent and non-covalent bonding, which can provide a repeatable healing response as a result of reversible reactivity. SHINE will investigate both the healing mechanisms of pure elastomers and composites made of elastomers. The methods for the design of these types of elastomer, tailor-made fillers and self-healing composites are given in a systematic manner. The SHINE project is intended to develop elastomers with mechanical properties comparable to conventional ones (with 60% recovery of the initial properties after healing),

repeatable self-healing (preventive versus curative healing), operable at room temperature and without human intervention. If successful, the impact of the SHINE project will reduce transportation costs by reducing the maintenance burden of infrastructures.

The consortium consists of two universities, four research centres, five large companies and one SME. All the partners combine their expertise and competences to develop innovative self-healing elastomers.

The project has started on 1 February 2013 with a total budget of 6.4 M€, with 4 M€ contribution of the EU. The project will end 31 July 2016.

The first dissemination has taken place, in the form of a publication and posters on various conferences, related to the development of new poly-urethane materials with very efficient self-healing properties.

More information about this project can be found on the website:

[www.selfhealingelastomers.eu](http://www.selfhealingelastomers.eu)

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# European project: **COMPANOCOMP**

The European COMPANOCOMP project started in October 2011. The aim of the project is to develop multiscale simulation methodology and software for predicting the morphology (spatial distribution and state of aggregation of nanoparticles), thermal (glass temperature), mechanical (viscoelastic storage and loss moduli, plasticity, fracture toughness and compression strength), electrical and optical properties of soft and hard polymer matrix nanocomposites from the atomic-level characteristics of their constituent nanoparticles and macromolecules and from the processing conditions used in their preparation.

The novel ground-breaking modelling methodology should significantly improve the reliable design and processability of nanocomposites contributing to the EU Grand Challenges for reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emission, energy savings by light-weight high-strength nanocomposites, mobility

and improved living environment. The successful outcome of the project will constitute an important advance in the state of the art and will have immediate industrial, economic and environmental impact.

The COMPANOCOMP initiative consists of two collaborative projects being executed by an EU consortium (8 partners) under the Seventh Framework Programme and a Russian consortium (4 partners) under the auspices of the Federal Russian government. DPI is acting as the coordinator of this project and Denka Hristova-Bogaerds is the Project Leader.

The project progresses successfully and is now in its final phase (with end date 30 September 2014). The results generated within the cooperative project are continuously presented at well-known in the field conferences and published in highly ranked journals:

Some recent publications from the project:

G.G. Vogiatzis and D.N. Theodorou, "Local Segmental Dynamics and Stresses in Polystyrene-C60 Mixtures", *Macromolecules*, 2014, 47, 387-404

D.V. Guseva, P.V. Komarov and A. V. Lyulin, "Molecular-dynamics simulations of thin polyisoprene films confined between amorphous silica substrates", *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2014, 140, 114903

More information about COMPANOCOMP project can be found on the website: [www.companocomp.eu](http://www.companocomp.eu)



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## Retirement Martien Cohen Stuart - Personal note

As of January 1st, 2014 I am no longer scientific director of DPI; Prof. Sybrand van der Zwaag is now in charge. Over the past five years, the world around DPI has changed quite a bit; the economy had pretty rough times. I joined in 2009, a few months after the fall of Lehman Brothers and the outbreak of the financial crisis. The market for scientific and technical jobs plunged and DPI saw a run on its vacant positions for PhD research. DPI also put out a helping hand to implement an emergency plan of the Dutch government to prevent massive lay-offs in the industry, the so-called 'kenniswerkersregeling'. Much to our delight, companies did not dump their DPI participations, and the tidal wave passed by without too much damage. It was also clear that DPI had to continuously revisit its working model to remain relevant for public-private collaboration. New ideas hatched within the DPI team; the strategy was revised and the international aspect was emphasized more. This led to agreements with China and Brazil, and to several successful proposals to EU programmes. The dynamic environment that DPI finds itself in calls for a competent and flexible team that can easily switch between various kinds

of activities, and has the creativity to find solutions. The DPI as it developed over the past few years has those qualities, and it has been a great pleasure for me to be part of it. Even though saying farewell has a tinge of sadness, I am happy to see that DPI is alive, that new initiatives are taking shape all the time (such as the start-up of a new area on biomedical polymers), that the quality of science meets high standards, and that the polymer industry is very supportive. I therefore wish DPI a healthy future and a key role in the 'art of connecting'. It simply deserves it!

### **Martien Cohen Stuart**

DPI and all DPI staff would like to thank Martien Cohen Stuart for his inspirational leadership as DPI's Scientific Director and for being such a pleasant colleague to work with. We wish him all the best for a long and healthy retirement!

# DPI Annual Meeting 2013

## embedded in successful three-day event

The DPI Annual Meeting 2013 was held as part of a three-day event that took place at the Papendal conference centre in Arnhem (Netherlands) on 4-6 November.

In a departure from the set-up of previous years, the organisers had opted for a combined programme including the Annual Meeting, the Young DPI Meeting, the Technology Area review meetings, the Programme Committee meetings, the meeting of the Council of Participants as well as the DPI Value Centre's Polymer Innovation Day.

The Young DPI meeting was attended by a record 45 scientists from different countries ranging from Germany to China and Brazil. Besides sharing some practical information with the participants, DPI wanted to give the young researchers an opportunity to get to know one another in a "fun and learning" setting. The young scientists thoroughly enjoyed the session, which focused on various aspects that play a role in working in an

international environment, such as finding a common mode of communication in a culturally and linguistically diverse group, building mutual trust and making the most of networking opportunities.

### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was attended by some 240 people. Chaired by Martien Cohen Stuart, Scientific Director of DPI, the meeting featured lectures by renowned guest speakers Professor Ludwik Leibler of the ESPI ParisTech, who spoke on the subject of vitrimers, novel organic materials made of molecular networks with original properties; and Professor Han Meijer of Eindhoven University of Technology, who spoke about "One-step Creation of Hierarchical Fractal Structures with Thermoplastic Materials". The two lectures represented two very different

ways of looking at materials: Professor Leibler from a highly imaginative and original perspective and Professor Meijer from a highly technical and almost formalistic approach.

During the Annual Meeting, Prof. Sybrand van der Zwaag, who succeeded Martien Cohen Stuart as Scientific Director of DPI as of 1 January 2014, introduced himself to the DPI community. Jacques Joosten gave a presentation highlighting DPI's progress and also touching on the challenges ahead. At the close of the Annual Meeting, the Golden Thesis Award was presented to Nicole Franssen for her thesis entitled "Functional (Co)polymers from Carbenes – Scope, Mechanism and Polymer Properties". Nicole, who did her PhD work at the University of Amsterdam under the supervision of Prof. Bas de Bruin, currently works at Shell Global Solutions in the Netherlands. The jury unanimously selected Nicole Franssen as the winner from among the three candidates nominated for the award. The other two candidates were: Jeroen Cottaar, of Eindhoven University of Technology, and Danqing Liu, of the same university.

The jury found the research work of all three nominees to be of an excellent quality, and their presentations too of a high professional level. In its report, the jury commended the first-prize winner for her excellent work and declared: "We unanimously congratulate Dr. Nicole Franssen for her innovative polymer chemistry, leading to polymers that cannot be made in any other way. The chemistry has been skilfully elaborated and the work also involves advanced structural characterisation."



### GOLDEN THESIS AWARD 2013

Jeroen Cottaar, Danqing Liu, Scientific Director Martien Cohen Stuart, winner of the award Nicole Franssen and the jury: Katja Loos, Ilja Voets and Han Meijer.



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## CERTIFICATES OF INVENTION 2013

The winners of the Certificates of invention including Scientific Director Martien Cohen Stuart and Chairman of the Supervisory Board Herman van Wechem.

### Poster Award

The Annual Meeting was followed by the conference dinner, a convivial gathering of some 280 people. During the dinner, Professor Martien Cohen Stuart announced the names of the winners of the Poster Award. The First Prize went to Laurens Polgar of the University of Groningen. The second prize was granted to Karel Wilsens of Eindhoven University of Technology and the third to Qingbao Guan of Delft University of Technology.

### Polymer Innovation Day

The Polymer Innovation Day 2013, held under the auspices of DPI Value Centre and attracting over 300 people, centred on the theme “How Can Polymers Work for You?”. The meeting targeted SMEs, start-ups and multinationals and aimed to promote collaboration among these players on innovation in the field of polymers.

Participants were offered an extensive, full-day programme of presentations and discussions on three very topical subjects: bio-based materials, the circular economy and so-called superior materials. Speakers from both established and new companies in each of these three clusters were invited to tell about their recent innovations and business. For most of them DPI Value Centre had played a valuable role in supporting their innovation projects or their new business. In order to ensure that the focus throughout the day remained on the content, cases or challenges were highlighted in short, to-the-point presentations and the audience were invited to help find solutions. To enable broader discussions and one-on-one exchanges with the speakers, a business market was set up where people could meet and build networks.

The day's programme included a keynote lecture entitled “Polymer Research in the European Context: Horizon 2020 – a chance or a challenge for the European plastics industry?” by Prof. Jan Diemert



## YOUNG DPI 2013

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of the Fraunhofer Institute for Chemical Technology. In this lecture, Prof. Diemert gave an overview of European research in the polymer industry, covering some examples of successful projects in the past, the way they were established, how they have contributed to innovation and how pitfalls can be avoided. He also spoke about the so-called Horizon 2020 funding programme of the European Union and the chances and challenges it presents to the plastics industry.

It was clear from the animated discussions that took place during the breaks and the lively interactions at the business market that the Polymer Innovation Day was a great success. Arie Brouwer, director of DPI Value Centre: “Many participants told me enthusiastically how they were able to establish new, often unpredictable or even unimaginable, contacts. It is surprising to see again and again that there is always scope for making new valuable connections and that there are

so many new initiatives by new players entering the field, often via niches they have discovered. That's exactly our aim: to offer our participants the opportunity to discover new possibilities for partnerships and to gain insights into new developments in science and innovation. We will continue to serve our lively community and make every effort to ensure that the Polymer Innovation Day remains a valuable happening.”

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# Research for mass production

Workshop 'From Processing to Performance', 24 January 2013

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Fifteen years ago, when DPI was launched, researchers were mainly involved in the chemistry of polymers. At that time, the most important issue was: How to make polymers with the desired properties? Now that more and more working lab prototypes of applications are being realized, attention also has to be paid to the processing of the polymers – preferably in a way that allows scaling up for mass production. This was the subject of DPI's annual cross technology area workshop in 2013.

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## Inkjet printing

The first speaker to address this subject was Professor Detlef Lohse of the Physics of Fluids group of the University of Twente, the Netherlands. His research group is trying to unravel how air bubbles in piëzo-driven inkjet printers disturb the printing behaviour and how these can be prevented from occurring. He showed how, with the help of the acoustical signal that the piëzo-electric device generates and a model of the acoustical channel, the size and the position of the bubbles can be determined. Apparently they arise at an active nozzle when a thin film of ink on the printer head interacts with the droplet, or in places where dust particles affect the surface tension of the fluid. Lohse: "A coating on the nozzle surface may prevent the formation of air bubbles." Another aspect that is being investigated is how to break up air bubbles once they have formed so that normal operation can resume and the printer does not have to be stopped and restarted. The answer is to apply an external acoustical signal. Finally, Lohse discussed the impact of the droplet on a surface; at some velocities it bounces back and does not wet the surface in the desired way. These results are of course

very relevant when inkjet printers are used for printing polymer layers, for instance in OLEDs. Polymer solutions have properties that are not so well known as those of ink and are not easy to measure, so a method to prevent such problems from occurring is vital.

## Coatings

The next speaker, Dr. Ulrich Nolte of the coatings company Altana, discussed two of his current research projects. Surface-active additives are used to improve coatings; they increase the pigment stability, avoid foam bubbles and improve the levelling of the coating. Polysiloxane modified with polyethylene oxide in the same proportion but in different architectures – linear chains, AB or ABA, or comb-like structures – results in changes in surface tension and in sliding force along the surface. The hypothesis is that the polysiloxane prefers the surface of the coating while the polyethylene is probably found in deeper layers. Nolte hopes to find – in cooperation with DPI – a method to test this hypothesis. The question Nolte would like answered is: "Which scientific measuring methods can help us to understand what happens at the surface during

the curing process?" In the second project the effect of adding silica particles to a coatings system to improve the mechanical properties is being investigated. Measurements of the gloss, the scratch resistance, the indentation and the E-modulus dependent on the weight percentage of the added particles result in the hypothesis that the interaction between the particles in the matrix might play a role. DPI could perhaps help by suggesting methods to determine both the mechanical properties on a micro-scale close to the particles and the gradients in polymer density. "We have all kinds of methods to describe the macroscopic behaviour of our coating system, but simply lack the microscopic insight to make a good model that would help us to predict effects in coatings," is how Nolte summarizes the needs of his company. In the discussion immediately after the presentation already a few useful suggestions (XPS, AFM) came up.

## Spin coating

Next Dr. Jasper Michels from the Holst Centre discussed his research on the spin-coating process used to make solar cells on a lab scale in all its details in order to be able to translate this into real production processes such as roll-to-roll slot coating or inkjet printing. In solar cells the morphology is the key performance parameter – the size of the interface between the donor and acceptor domains determines the amount of charge carriers to be generated. It is therefore important to control that morphology and to be able to predict the device characteristics once you know which morphology you have made. In processing from solution, both crystallization and de-mixing of the two components – donor and acceptor material – play a role. Michels concludes: "There is not really a good method for monitoring what is happening in situ in the spin coating process, but I am glad to see that initiatives in that direction are being taken at DPI."

## Overview

Prof. Anton Darhuber of the Physics Department of the Eindhoven University

of Technology gave an interesting overview of solution processing of organic electronic materials. Spin coating is an inexpensive method resulting in layers of uniform thickness but unfortunately it is a slow batch process, incompatible with a roll-to-roll continuous process. Besides, it also involves a great deal of wastage of material. Possible alternatives are slot-die coating (roll width 4 m, speed 10 m/s), ink jet printing (roll width 5 m, speed 3.3 m/s), and dip-coating. In this latter method the surface is patterned with hydrophilic and hydrophobic materials and the liquid sticks to the hydrophilic parts. A problem that arises are satellite droplets. Darhuber: "These can be avoided by orienting the structures to be patterned in such a way that the last part of the object is taken out of the liquid at a sharp angle." In inkjet printing, striations in lines occur if the droplets are not close enough; line spacing has an optimum at about 200  $\mu\text{m}$ , at smaller spacings, one begins to see overlap. Uniformity of the line over its width and the levelling time can be influenced by adding surfactants and by controlling the drying process actively (to avoid the coffee stain effect) by a non-contact and material-independent process with an infra-red laser and a multi-mirror device. Mirrors can be moved individually, so an IR pattern can be projected on the 2 by 2 cm sample to be dried.

### **Melt flows**

In his lecture Professor Han Meijer of the Mechanical Engineering Department of the Eindhoven University of Technology explained how by splitting and combining polymer melt flows by simple mechanical means – valves, flow splitters, counter- and co-rotating elements – layered structures can be made. Layers can be made both parallel and perpendicular to a substrate surface, and even treelike structures with 'branches' and 'leaves' can be made. Films can be made as thin as 20 nm by stretching them after deposition. Applications that Meijer has in mind are photovoltaic cells and membranes for fuel cells. Meijer concludes: "Controlled organisation by mechanical means beats self-organisation by chemical means." In this setting with many chemically oriented researchers, this is a challenging thing to contend and it indeed gave rise to a discussion during which Meijer resolutely rejected all processes in which solvents were to be used.

### **Nucleation**

Marcus Gahleither from Borealis, initially a producer of polyolefins, talked about how polypropylene is produced in his company. Polypropylene can, depending on the processing conditions, be produced in at least three different crystalline phases, called  $\beta$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  modifications, for high impact strength, high stiffness and good transparency, respectively. If these are produced from solutions, nuclei in a well-defined dispersion are needed. For different applications mixtures of these modifications can be produced by combining different reactors or by producing the polypropylene with distinct peaks in the molecular weight distribution, as a result of which crystallization takes place in these three phases. Temperature variations during processing and cooling-down have an influence on the end-result. Gahleither: "An important application is the replacement of old concrete sewage pipes by polypropylene ones. The latter can withstand earthquakes for instance and their stiffness – and other properties – can be adapted, also by changing the percentage of different modifications, to the needs of the soil in which they will be used. On top of that polypropylene pipes do not lose waste water; in concrete pipes sometimes up to 30% of the sewage water can escape." Another interesting application is the replacement of polycarbonate baby bottles containing toxic bisphenol A by bottles made from  $\gamma$  polypropylene.

### **Composites**

Professor Theo Dingemans of the department Novel Aerospace Materials of Delft University of Technology studies composite materials. In aerospace materials research, the quest is always for lighter materials with good thermal and mechanical properties. Polymer resins with nanotube fillers are materials that are presently used in such applications. Commodity polymers have the disadvantage that their quality is difficult to control. Dingemans and his researchers therefore looked at high performance polymers, such as polyetherimides, combined with carbon nanotubes. They found that making the dispersions of the carbon nanotubes is precision work. These polymers are often initially amorphous but adding small amounts of carbon nanotubes can induce crystallinity and thus enormously improve the thermal and mechanical properties of the films. Surprisingly, even the form of the flask and

the frequency of stirring when making the dispersion have an influence on the end result.

### **Vitrimers**

The final speaker was Professor Ludwik Leibler of the Ecole Supérieure de Physique et Chimique Industrielle (ESPCI). He gave a presentation about a new class of polymers, which he and his co-workers call vitrimers, with properties in between those of thermoplastic and thermoset materials. Permanently cross-linked polymers have good mechanical properties and are insoluble once processed, but they cannot be reshaped. Non-cross linked polymers and polymers with reversible cross-links are processable but soluble. The new polymers, vitrimers, are both processable and insoluble and can be processed locally: complex shapes can be made by forging and welding, without the need for using moulds. The number of crosslinking bonds remains constant but the topology of the networks changes. Leibler: "The key is to design the chemistry so that at high temperature, exchange reactions enable stress relaxation and malleability, and upon cooling, the exchanges become so slow that the topology of the network is essentially fixed and the system behaves like a (stable) soft solid." Objects made of such polymers can be grinded, melted and reused for new products with the same quality, very much like ordinary silicate glass, but at much lower temperatures. In the discussion that followed vitrimers were seen as versatile materials because of these possibilities of recycling and reparability. Whether complete regeneration after fatigue damage is possible remains to be seen - an aspect that has not yet been studied.

In some of the methods discussed, solutions of polymers are used. The kind of solvent used, the deposition and the drying method all appear to have an influence on the ultimate function the polymer has to perform. In other methods, melts of polymers are used and here too the properties of the polymers depend on the way the devices are produced from the melts by mechanical means. The main conclusion: designing polymers with desired functionalities is not enough, the processing has to be taken into account as well. The 80 participants in the workshop learned from one another's experience in this field. At the end of the day, that is exactly why DPI organizes these workshops.



## POLYOLEFINS

Polyolefins (PO) are the only class of synthetic macromolecules that can be produced catalytically with precise control of stereochemistry and, to a large extent, of (co)monomer sequence distribution. Therefore, as with the letters of the alphabet, the number of constituent elements which can be assembled into meaningfully organised structures is practically infinite and, accordingly, scope of application of polyolefins is continually growing.

## OBJECTIVES

Polyolefin-based materials can be customised for a wide range of applications: from ultra-rigid thermoplastics to high-performance elastomers. This vast spectrum of performance is achieved by a variety of polyolefin molecular structures, whose common features are full atom economy in their synthesis, low cost, excellent properties, a long life cycle and ease of recycling. The research programme of the Polyolefins technology area encompasses the entire spectrum of the knowledge chain, the aim being to increase proficiency in the ever-expanding applications. Although polyolefins represent one of the oldest (if not the oldest) thermoplastic polymer families, they are still very much characterised by continuous innovation. Both gradual and step change technology renewal yield new applications and reduce the manufacturing- and user eco-footprint. The recent discovery of chain shuttling catalyst systems that enable the industrial production of polyolefin block (co)polymers with unprecedented structures, usable for a wide range of applications (from thermoplastic elastomers to optically active materials) is yet another illustration of this innovative capacity.

## SUB-PROGRAMMES

### Catalysis

Investigating, screening and developing (novel) homogeneous and heterogeneous catalyst systems, as well as new approaches for the immobilisation of molecular catalysts, new co-catalysts and activators.

### Polymer structure, properties and processing

Understanding, modelling and predicting structure-processing property relationships in polyolefin-based polymer systems.

### Polymer reactor engineering

Studying various reactor and technology unit operations to develop a quantitative description and acquire a thorough understanding of the crucial aspects of olefin polymerisation processes.

### New methods and exploratory research

New polymerisation and polymer characterisation methods, high-throughput screening and experimentation, embryonic research and concept development.

### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2013 totalled € 2.69 million (budget: € 3.00 million). A total of k€ 6 was spent on equipment. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2013 was 29.8 (51 researchers). Prof.dr. Vincenzo Busico acted as Scientific Chairman and Dr. Jan Stamhuis as Programme Area Coordinator of the Polyolefins programme.

### Publications and inventions

This technology area generated a total of 21 reviewed papers and four theses.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Partners from industry

- Borealis
- Braskem
- Dow Benelux
- DSM
- ExxonMobil
- ITRI
- Lanxess Elastomers
- LyondellBasell
- Petrobras
- Sabic
- SCG Chemicals
- Sinopec
- Symyx
- Teijin Aramid
- Ticona
- Freeslate

### Partners from the research world

- Consorzio Interuniversitario Nazionale per la Scienza e Tecnologia dei Materiali (INSTM)
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- ESPCE-Lyon
- Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF
- Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- Johann Kepler University Linz
- Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
- Loughborough University
- Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg
- National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)
- Polymer Technology Group Eindhoven
- Queens University
- Radboud University Nijmegen
- UFRGS Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul
- Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro
- University of Amsterdam
- University of Antwerp
- University of Erlangen
- University of Manitoba
- University of Naples Federico II
- University of Ottawa
- University of Perugia
- University of Salerno
- University of Turin
- University of Udine

For details, see page 36.

## PERFORMANCE POLYMERS

Performance Polymers (PP) have considerable potential to contribute to reducing energy use, environmental impact and the effects of climate change through component consolidation, weight reduction, lifetime extension, recyclability and utilisation of renewable feedstock and create new opportunities for the construction, transport, appliances and electronics industries.

### OBJECTIVES

The Performance Polymers (PP) technology area combines Engineering Polymers and Rubber Technologies and is positioned between bulk plastics and specialty polymers such as functional polymer systems. Performance polymers possess improved chemical, mechanical and physical properties, especially beyond ambient conditions. They are applied as material systems under (cyclic or continuous) load-bearing conditions and frequently consist of multi-component mixtures with various polymers, reinforcements and additives.

The performance requirements of complex parts and assemblies in polymer materials necessitate close technological cooperation between polymer supplier, converter and end user. That in turn calls for a thorough understanding of polymerisation and polymer modification, as well as the processing, properties and design of polymer systems. Moreover, the wide variety of base polymers in this technology area demands a special effort to identify commonality in those themes along the value chain. This is reflected in the strategy and objectives of the Performance Polymers technology area, which include investigation of fundamental issues in the value chain using a 'chain of knowledge' approach in terms of energy saving, durability, ultimate performance and sustainability.

### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### Polymer and network chemistry and modification

Studies aimed at expanding the use of bio-based materials, by identifying their unique properties and reducing their eco-footprint. Further studies are designed to reduce the costs and energy use in polymerisation. Other objectives are network formation and the development of new concepts for monomer polymer molecular structure to achieve gradual changes in the balance of flow properties, static and dynamic mechanical behaviour and other functional properties.

#### Processing for properties, polymer physics and modelling

Understanding the relationship between the molecular structure, processing and properties of polymers. Studies of the processing effects of intermolecular interactions, e.g. hydrogen bonding. Processing, modification and vulcanisation studies of elastomer blends. Studies of complex flow behaviour, e.g. in particle reinforced visco-elastic materials.

#### Advanced reinforced thermoplastics and synthetic fibres

Studies of the interface effects in fibre-reinforced composite systems, the effects of nano-reinforcement on polymer material properties on macroscopic and microscopic scale with a focus on the effects at the matrix-filler interface, friction and wear studies of fibre-reinforced thermoplastics and elastomers.

#### Long term stability and performance

Investigation of the chemical and physical ageing mechanisms and their interaction, with the ultimate objective of predicting lifetime and attaining a fit-for-purpose design over the entire lifecycle. Studies of self-healing in polymeric materials as paradigm shift to realise improved fit-for purpose lifetimes.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Partners from industry

- AkzoNobel
- BASF
- Bayer
- Bekaert
- DSM
- Sabic
- SKF
- Teijin Aramid

### Partners from the research world

- CNRS Strasbourg
- Delft University of Technology
- DWI an der RWTH Aachen
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF
- National Technical University of Athens
- University of Groningen
- University of Twente

### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2013 totalled € 1.49 million (budget: € 2.03 million). A total of k€ 60 was spent on equipment. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2013 was 13.9 (20 researchers). Prof.dr. Costantino Creton acted as Scientific Chairman and Ronald Korstanje acted as Programme Area Coordinator of the Performance Polymers programme.

### Publications and inventions

This Technology Area generated a total of 28 reviewed papers and four theses; two inventions were reported and two patent applications were filed.

Detailed information on page 37.

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## FUNCTIONAL POLYMER SYSTEMS

The Functional Polymer Systems (FPS) Technology Area performs research on polymers, small organic molecules and their prototype devices that are capable of an electrical, optical, magnetic, ionic or photo-responsive function and that offer potential for industrial application.

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### OBJECTIVES

The FPS research programme is structured along application lines in the following sub-programmes: polymer lighting and field-effect transistors; polymers for information and communication technology; solar cells (photovoltaics); and responsive materials, (bio)sensors and actuators.

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### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### Polymers for information and communication technology

The objective of this sub-programme is to develop scalable techniques for structuring polymers on a nano- and micro-scale by combining 'top-down' approaches with 'bottom-up' techniques based on self-assembly or supramolecular chemistry in order to produce new or greatly enhanced properties for optical, electrical, biomedical and sensor applications. Research projects are focusing on IR-reflective windows, membranes with controlled pore-size and responsive surfaces making use of the available patterning tools.

#### Photovoltaics (PV)

This area is dedicated to exploring new materials and gaining a fundamental understanding of all (photo-) physical processes occurring in polymer and small organic molecule bulk heterojunction PV. Organic PV is one of many promising PV technologies offering the prospect of large area cost-effective PV for sustainable energy production in the long term. The research focuses on novel low-bandgap materials, hybrid (inorganic-organic) blends, stable materials under ambient conditions, non-radiative decay processes, efficient charge separation, morphology control, tandem solar cells and a thorough understanding of materials behaviour under operational device conditions.

#### Responsive materials and functional membranes

The purpose of the research is to develop new materials and processes that result in a change of shape and/or large displacement upon an external electrical, magnetic, optical and/or chemical trigger. Research projects focus on new piezo-electronic materials, membranes with controlled nano-pores, switchable surfaces and antireflective coatings.

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### FACTS AND FIGURES

#### Partners from industry

- BASF
- DSM
- ECN
- Industrial Technology Research Institute Taiwan
- Philips
- Rolic Technologies
- Sabic
- Solvay
- TNO

#### Partners from the research world

- Delft University of Technology
- ECN
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- Imperial College London
- Nanoforce Technology
- University of Groningen

#### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2013 totalled € 1.40 million (budget: € 1.59 million). A total of k€ 5 was spent on equipment. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2013 was 12.1 (27 researchers). Prof.dr. Frans de Schryver acted as Scientific Chairman and Dr. John van Haare as Programme Area Coordinator.

#### Publications and inventions

The research programme in this Technology Area generated a total of 18 reviewed papers and five theses. Three inventions were reported and one patent application was filed.

For details, see page 39.



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## COATINGS TECHNOLOGY

Within the Coatings Technology (CT) area frontier research in the general field of organic coatings is performed. The aim is to develop fundamental insights that will lead to innovative coatings technologies, The research is pre-competitive and is focussed at achieving sustainability, quality of life improvements, economic growth and preparing the coatings industry for future challenges.

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### OBJECTIVES

The research programme for Coatings Technology (CT) concentrates on exploring novel coating materials and technologies and acquiring fundamental insights into the structure-properties relationships of coatings to enable the coatings industry to meet future challenges. The research programme is based on three pillars: renewable raw materials and novel, environmentally friendly coating technologies; functional (smart) coatings; durability and testing of coatings.

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### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### **Renewable raw materials, formulation and powder coatings**

There are currently three projects underway to study the feasibility of applying sustainable, renewable resources in coatings technology without compromising the properties of the final coating (film). The programme focuses on bio-based building blocks and raw materials as substitutes for materials derived from petrochemistry and their use in novel coating technologies. Systems being studied include polycarbonate powder coatings or waterborne polyurethane dispersions, as well as starch-based performance coating materials. The results are promising in that coatings have already been obtained which match and/or improve on the properties of purely synthetic coatings.

#### **Functional (smart) coatings**

'Smart coatings' are capable of responding to an external stimulus, such as light, temperature, pressure, pH, odours or gas. The stimulus causes a change in the coating's properties which may be permanent or reversible. Coatings with self-healing properties in response to mechanical damage or with light- or moisture-induced self-cleaning properties are of particular interest and have already been studied. Research on protective coatings that can adapt to their environment and/or conditions under which they are used is at the embryonic stage, but such systems, as well as tailored coatings for medical diagnostics (e.g. test strips) and implants, seem feasible in the future. The same applies for coatings with special optoelectronic and electronic properties that could be used in electronic devices and information technology.

#### **Durability and testing of coatings**

The aim is to gain a fundamental understanding of the degradation mechanisms of coatings used in outdoor exposure to enhance durability. Another objective of this sub-programme is to develop new testing methods for coatings, e.g. methods for testing adhesion, gloss or scratch resistance, which correlate to meaningful physical parameters. Last but not least, DPI collaborates intensively with the Materials Innovation Institute's 'Materials to Innovate' (M2i) programme in the study of anti-corrosion coatings.

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### FACTS AND FIGURES

#### **Partners from industry**

- AkzoNobel
- Altana
- DSM
- Lawter
- Saint-Gobain

#### **Partners from the research world**

- Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- University of Haute-Alsace
- Wageningen University

#### **Budget and organisation**

Expenditure in 2013 totalled € 1.04 million (budget: € 1.11 million). A total of € 128k was spent on equipment. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2013 was 13.5 (17 researchers). Prof. Claus Eisenbach acted as Scientific Chairman and Dr. Mercedes Crego Calama as Programme Area Coordinator of the Coatings Technology programme.

#### **Publications and inventions**

The research programme in this Technology Area generated a total of five reviewed papers, one thesis and one invention was reported.

For details, see page 40.

## HIGH-THROUGHPUT EXPERIMENTATION

High-Throughput Experimentation (HTE) and combinatorial materials research open the way to the rapid construction of libraries of polymers, blends and materials through systematic variation of composition. Detailed characterisation of such libraries will help to develop an in-depth understanding of structure property relationships.

### OBJECTIVES

In the long term, it is envisioned that 'materials informatics' will facilitate the design and preparation of customised materials and devices with predetermined properties based on previously established structure-property relationships. DPI's unique combination of leading industrial and academic partners provides an excellent basis for successful output. It also guarantees early pre-competitive evaluation of the new (platform) technologies and their rapid transfer into the commercial R&D programmes of the industrial partners.

### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### Synthesis, catalysis & formulation

Besides fundamental research on the use of microwave irradiation, studies are conducted into the feasibility of scaling up microwave assisted polymerisation procedures. The synthesis efforts have been intensified in the direction of water-soluble polymers. In addition to fast synthesis and formulation platforms, other subjects being investigated include the incorporation of high-throughput screening techniques for molar mass, polymerisation kinetics and thermal and surface properties.

#### Thin-film library preparation & screening

This sub-programme focuses on gaining a detailed understanding of thin-film preparation technologies, the application of these technologies and the screening of thin-film material properties with automated atomic force microscopy and nano indentation technologies. Areas of application include the processing of light emitting materials, surface patterning, cell screening and the preparation of conductive tracks on polymeric substrates.

#### Combinatorial compounding

The objective is to develop a process to accelerate the preparation, characterisation and optimisation of plastic formulations. The combinatorial extrusion line used for this purpose has been equipped with in-line and on-line screening techniques (e.g. IR, UV/Vis, rheometry, ultrasonic spectroscopy) as well as systems for data acquisition, analysis and visualisation.

#### Materials informatics & modelling

This programme concerns data handling, database construction and the build-up of integrated knowledge capture systems for combinatorial materials and polymer research as well as experimental design, hard and soft modelling tools and tools for deriving quantitative structure-property relationships. A model is being developed for the screening of MALDI matrices to facilitate faster screening of molar mass.

#### Characterisation techniques

This sub-cluster is engaged in the development of detailed characterisation methods. An important aspect of the research is the combination of different measurement techniques to characterise multiphase or multi-component materials at macro, micro and nano scale. Another focal point is the analysis of branched polymers by means of two-dimensional liquid chromatography. Tools and models for nano scale characterisation of interfaces using AFM technology are also being developed.

### FACTS AND FIGURES

#### Partners from industry

- Chemspeed
- Evonik
- Forschungsgesellschaft Kunststoffe
- Michelin
- Microdrop Technologies

#### Partners from the research world

- Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF
- Friedrich-Schiller University, Jena
- Radboud University

#### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2013 totalled €0.72 million (budget: € 0.65 million). The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2013 was 71 (13 researchers). Prof.dr. Ulrich Schubert acted as Scientific Chairman and Dr. Mercedes Crego Calama as Programme Area Coordinator.

#### Publications and inventions

This Technology Area generated a total of 47 reviewed papers. Three inventions were reported and one patent application was filed.

For details, see page 41.

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## BIO-INSPIRED POLYMERS

Within the Bio-Inspired Polymers (BIP) programme, the main driver for the development of future materials is sustainability, with nature being regarded as an important source of inspiration for finding new leads and possibilities.

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### OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Bio-Inspired Polymers (BIP) programme is to develop advanced polymeric materials and methodologies for new and existing applications. The development of these materials is inspired by natural polymeric structures and principles of natural systems such as self-assembly and bio-catalysis.

Bio-Inspired Polymers can be produced from renewable or fossil resources through either chemocatalysis or enzymatic/microbial catalysis. The structure-property relationships of the novel materials are studied to elucidate why they exhibit unique properties. One important line of research is intended to develop a generic toolbox for new bio-based polymers with a view to creating new business opportunities. Aspects addressed by a bio-based polymer programme include the identification of new or improved (multi-)functionalities of bio-based building blocks and polymers and the assessment of relevant technologies in the bio-based value chain.

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### FACTS AND FIGURES

#### Partners from industry

- Food and Biobased Research, Wageningen UR
- FrieslandCampina
- Petrobras
- Sabic
- Teijin Aramid

#### Partners from the research world

- Eindhoven University of Technology
- Food and Biobased Research, Wageningen UR
- Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena
- National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)
- Tsinghua University
- Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

#### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2013 totalled € 1.20 million (budget: € 1.22 million). A total of € 41k was spent on equipment. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2013 was 8.8 (19 researchers). Prof.dr. Gerrit Eggink acted as Scientific Chairman and Dr. Peter Nossin as Programme Area Coordinator of the Bio-Inspired Polymers Technology Area.

#### Publications and inventions

The research programme in this Technology Area generated a total of ten reviewed papers and two theses. Four inventions were reported and three patent applications were filed.

For details, see page 43.



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## LARGE-AREA THIN-FILM ELECTRONICS

Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics (LATFE) is the step in the value chain devoted to studying fundamental issues related to processing for large-area deposition and disruptive architectures for large-area organic electronic devices. Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics is an excellent example of a highly interdisciplinary research area, extending from chemistry and physics to engineering.

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### OBJECTIVES

Whereas Functional Polymer Systems (FPS) focuses on materials development and initial device performance, Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics (LATFE) is the obvious next step in the value chain. The fundamental knowledge generated should facilitate the reliable production and operation of organic electronic devices.

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### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### Large-area material deposition using solution processing

The objective is to study fundamental issues of large-area polymer and small-molecule material deposition using roll-to-roll solution processing (gravure, flexo, screen, slot-die) to make the transition from lab scale to industrial scale for reliably processed devices. For patterning of structures inkjet printing is explored. Although lab-scale devices have superb performance, we lack the industrial processes and the fundamental knowledge about large-area material deposition from solution and patterning needed to choose the right deposition method per layer for mass production.

#### Disruptive device architectures

The purpose of this research is to develop disruptive device architectures for more reliable and easier production and to understand the failure mechanisms occurring in industrially produced devices. Current device architectures require very thin films (~ 100 nm) with less than 2% thickness deviation, which imposes very strict demands on the processing and production of devices. At the moment, this results in poor yields, high costs and many uncomprehended failures. There is an urgent need for new device architectures that allow more robust processing and production and improve yield without affecting device performance (efficacy, homogeneity of light output).

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### FACTS AND FIGURES

#### Partners from industry

- DSM
- Philips
- Solvay
- TNO

#### Partners from the research world

- Eindhoven University of Technology
- Imperial College London
- Max Planck Institute für Polymerforschung
- University of Algarve
- University of Groningen
- University of Twente
- University of Wuppertal

#### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2013 totalled € 1.12 million (budget: € 1.37 million). A total of € 10k was spent on equipment. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2013 was 12.1 (16 researchers). Prof.dr. Frans de Schryver acted as Scientific Chairman and Dr. John van Haare as Programme Area Coordinator.

#### Publications and inventions

This Technology Area generated a total of six reviewed papers and one thesis. Three inventions were reported and one patent application was filed.

For details, see page 44.

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## POLYMERS FOR ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY

Polymers for Enhanced Oil Recovery represent an important application of water-soluble polymers. With the increasing complexity of oil recovery from existing and new reservoirs, this technology could contribute significantly to more efficient recovery of the world's energy resources. Originally a sub-programme in the Emerging Technologies (EMT) technology area, DPI has now created a new, separate technology area for polymers for enhanced oil recovery.

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### OBJECTIVES

Although the underlying mechanisms may be similar for a range of applications of water-soluble polymers, this specific application warrants the establishment of a specific programme focusing on the structure-property relationships of polymers in solutions and their behaviour in the reservoir.

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### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### **Structure–property relationships and the design of new model macromolecules**

Controlled radical polymerisation techniques will be employed to investigate the effects of macromolecular topology, for example branching, on polymer solution properties and on viscosity and/or visco-elasticity. These novel structures are evaluated in core flow experiments to determine their injectivity and impact on the recovery of oil in porous media. The effects of polymeric surfactants, i.e. high molecular weight amphiphilic structures that have the potential to decrease the interfacial tension and enhance oil recovery compared with that obtained with the current polymer flooding applications, are also being investigated.

#### **Relating polymer rheology to apparent viscosity in porous media**

The objective of this sub-programme is to develop reliable models to predict the relationship of polymer-apparent viscosity in porous media to porous-medium properties, bulk rheological parameters and superficial velocity in the medium and establish the relationship with enhanced oil recovery.

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### FACTS AND FIGURES

#### **Partners from industry**

- Shell
- SNF

#### **Partners from the research world**

- Delft University of Technology
- University of Groningen

#### **Budget and organisation**

Expenditure in 2013 totalled € 0.30 million (budget: € 0.37 million). The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2013 was 3.9 (5 researchers). Prof.dr. Martien Cohen Stuart acted as Scientific Chairman and Dr. Jan Stamhuis as Programme Area Coordinator of the Polymer of the Enhanced Oil Recovery programme

#### **Publications and inventions**

This Technology Area generated a total of four reviewed papers and one thesis.

For details, see page 44.

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## EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES: ADVANCED COMPOSITES

The aim of the Emerging Technologies (EMT) Technology Area is to promote the exploration investigation of new ideas from industry concerning new technologies that do not fit into any of the existing technology areas. When a company approaches DPI with a proposal for a project on a new topic, DPI will find an academic partner to carry out the research.

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### OBJECTIVES

Projects in the Emerging Technologies technology area are handled like any other DPI projects. However, after two years a decision is made on whether the project will be extended for another two years, by which time at least one other industrial party, in addition to the industrial party that initiated the project, must be willing to participate. The project can then be absorbed into another technology area. As in the case of projects in the Corporate Research technology area, the intellectual property (IP) generated in the first two years is owned by all of DPI's partners. If a project is continued after two years, the IP is treated in the same way as in other technology areas. In 2012, Water-Soluble Polymers, Smart Packaging and Advanced Composites were selected as the focus areas for Emerging Technologies. Potential projects in these areas are currently being discussed with industry. However, other opportunities are emerging that would promote DPI's mission of studying and developing new sustainable polymer technologies in cooperation with industry and academia.

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### SUB-PROGRAMMES

In 2012, on-going projects involving water-soluble polymers to be used for enhanced oil recovery (EOR) were transferred to a new technology area, Polymers for EOR (page 65). A new project to investigate High Performance Matrices for Advanced Composites was launched in 2012. This project, which is being carried out in association with Delft University of Technology, is part of a new collaboration with the Dutch materials programme, M2i. In this joint programme, DPI is studying base materials, for example matrix and fibres, whilst M2i is investigating the design and properties of composites. Interface studies and processing/composite manufacturing are a joint focus area.

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### FACTS AND FIGURES

#### Partners from industry

- DPI partners
- M2i partners

#### Partners from the research world

- Delft University of Technology

#### Organisation

Prof.dr. Martien Cohen Stuart acted as Scientific Chairman and Dr. Jan Stamhuis as Programme Area Coordinator of the Emerging Technologies programme.

#### Publications and inventions

This Technology Area has generated no output in 2013.

For details, see page 44.



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## CORPORATE RESEARCH

The role of the Corporate Research programme is to initiate and support enabling science and conceptual new science that is of interest to all of the partners in DPI because of its long-term potential impact.

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### OBJECTIVES

This programme is primarily science-driven, based on a vision of future industrial needs and opportunities. It operates at the forefront of scientific knowledge and capabilities in the field of polymer science. The programme activities are arranged in several sub-clusters.

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### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### Enabling science

- Polymer characterisation (surfaces and interfaces (applying mainly microscopic techniques), molecular characterisation (SEC techniques on cross-linked architectures and networks, for example, and analysis of molar mass distribution)).
- Structure vs. performance: multiscale modelling, fluid dynamics (rheology) and solid-state properties (bulk materials and surface properties).

#### New science

Development of new concepts in polymer chemistry and polymer physics with a view to meeting long-term requirements in terms of sustainability, durability and bio-related polymer systems.

#### Infrastructure

Corporate Research also strengthens the research infrastructure by investing in equipment for the benefit of the entire DPI community.

#### DPI fellowship programme

Under this programme, talented young researchers with a tenured or tenure-track position at a Dutch university can be appointed as a 'DPI fellow'. The aim of the programme is to secure their commitment to the Dutch polymer science community and give them the opportunity to attain scientific leadership qualities in an area matching DPI's current or future strategy.

#### Bio-Related Materials (BRM) programme

In association with FOM and TIFN, DPI has established an Industrial Partnership Programme on biomaterials and bio-related materials. The aim of the programme is to understand how to move from the scale of complexes and aggregates to the mesoscopic scale, taking account of both the time dependent interactions and structures in their chemical detail and the resulting dynamic and spatially varying mesoscale physical properties.

#### Understanding the visco-elasticity of elastomer-based nanocomposites (VEC) programme

Filled rubbers are widely used in industry. Adding silica particles to a polymer matrix increases the mechanical properties of the material but causes various non-linear effects, notably a dramatic decline in elasticity under high strain (the Payne effect). This effect is still not understood very well. During this project systematic experiments will be conducted with rubbers of varying compositions. On the macroscopic scale, we are performing rheological measurements and combining them with microscopic characterisations in order to link behaviour on a macroscopic scale with the micro-structure of the sample.

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### FACTS AND FIGURES

#### Partners from industry

- All DPI partners take part in Corporate Research

#### Partners from Academia

- Delft University of Technology
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- ESRF, Grenoble
- Foundation for fundamental research on matter (FOM)
- Radboud University
- TI Food and Nutrition (TIFN)
- University of Groningen
- University of Twente
- Wageningen University

#### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2013 totalled € 1.40 million (budget: € 1.40 million). The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2013 was 16.1 (17 researchers). Prof.dr. Martien Cohen Stuart acted as Scientific Chairman and Dr. Monique Bruining as Programme Area Coordinator of the Corporate Research programme.

#### Publications and inventions

This research programme generated a total of 37 reviewed papers, four theses and one invention was reported.

For details, see page 44.

## POLYOLEFINS

### Projects

**#632:** Experimental and computational study of dense gas-fluidised beds with liquid injection

**#633:** Understanding structure/performance relationships for non-metallocene olefin polymerization catalysts

**#635:** Measuring active site concentration of olefin polymerization catalysts

**#636:** The study of the role of the support, support preparation and initial conditions on olefin polymerisation

**#637:** Role of entanglements on the flow behavior of polyolefins

**#638:** Thermally stable olefin polymerization catalysts by reversible intramolecular alkyl shuttling

**#641:** High-Troughput Computational Pre-Screening of Catalysts

**#642:** Development of High-Temperature 2-Dimensional Liquid Chromatography for the Characterization of Polyolefins

**#646:** New Functionalized Materials by Rh and Pd Mediated Carbene Homo-Polymerization and Olefin/Carbene Co-Polymerization

**#674:** Rheology Control by Branching Modeling

**#706:** Intrinsic effect of catalyst immobilization techniques on catalyst activity and selectivity

**#708:** Structure-property relations of olefinic block copolymers

**#709:** Integrated Models for PolyOlefin Reactors

**#710:** Linking chemically specific structure information to physical properties of polyolefins.

**#711:** Mass transfer & kinetics in heterophasic copolymerization of propylene

**#712:** Elucidation and control of the active surface structure and chemistry in MgCl<sub>2</sub>-supported Ziegler-Natta catalysis: an integrated experimental and computational approach

**#714:** Putting values to a model for Flow Induced Crystallization

**#728:** Structural investigations on MAO and design of alternative well-defined cocatalysts and single-component catalysts

**#731:** Main group metal-alkyl cocatalysts and scavengers in molecular olefin polymerization catalysis: a mechanistic investigation

**#732:** Strategies for stabilizing trivalent vanadium and chromium propylene polymerization catalysts

**#750:** Optimisation and Calibration of High-Temperature Liquid Chromatographic Separation of Polypropylene and Propylene based Copolymers

**#751:** Predictive Modelling of Polyolefin Reactors

**#753:** Impact of the geometric parameters of catalyst supports on the kinetics and morphology of polyolefins

**#754:** Direct insight into elusive active Ti species of high-yield Ziegler-Natta Catalysts

**#757:** Influence of entanglement on rheological response of Ultra High Molecular Weight Polyethylene from linear to nonlinear viscoelastic behaviour

**#785:** High Impact Polypropylene: Structure Evolution and impact on Reaction

**#787:** In situ X-ray measurements

**#791:** A comprehensive integrated HTC&HTE workflow for the mechanistic study of (novel) olefin polymerization catalysts

**#793:** Novel Quadrupolar Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Methodology for the Study of MgCl<sub>2</sub>-Supported Ziegler-Natta Catalysts

**#795:** The molecular and morphological origin of large improvement of stress-strain properties of polyethylenes

### Theses

Camille Descour  
Olefin block copolymers: synthesis and dissection

Ajin Verghese Cheruvathur  
Surface chemistry of flat-model Ziegler-Natta catalysts

Nicole Franssen  
Functional (co)polymers from carbenes

Anton Ginzburg  
Development of high temperature two dimensional liquid chromatography of polyolefins

### Scientific publications

G. Portale, D. Cavallo, G.C. Alfonso, D. Hermida-Merino, M. van Drongelen, L. Balzano, G.W.M. Peters, J.G.P. Goossens and W. Bras  
*Polymer crystallization studies under processing-relevant conditions at the SAXS/WAXS DUBBLE beamline at the ESRF*  
Journal of Applied Crystallography 46 1681-1689

T.F.L. McKenna, E. Tioni, M.M. Ranieri, A. Alizadeh, C. Boisson and V. Monteil  
*Catalytic olefin polymerisation at short times: Studies using specially adapted reactors*  
Canadian Journal of Chemical Engineering 91 (4) 669-686

M.M. Ranieri, J.P. Broyer, F. Cuttillo, T.F.L. McKenna and C. Boisson  
*Site count: is a high-pressure quenched-flow reactor suitable for kinetic studies of molecular catalysts in ethylene polymerization?*  
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L. Rocchigiani, V. Busico, A. Pastore and A. Macchioni  
*Probing the interactions between all components of the catalytic pool for homogeneous olefin polymerisation by diffusion NMR spectroscopy*  
Dalton Transactions 42 (25) 9104-9111

M.A. Bashir, V. Monteil, V. Kanellopoulos, M.A.H. Ali and T.F.L. McKenna  
*An Equation of State-Based Modeling Approach for Estimating the Partial Molar Volume of Penetrants and Polymers in Binary Mixtures*

Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research  
52 (46) 16491-16505

A. Ginzburg, T. Macko, V. Dolle and R. Brull  
*Multidimensional high-temperature liquid chromatography: A new technique to characterize the chemical heterogeneity of Ziegler-Natta-based bimodal HDPE*  
Journal of Applied Polymer Science 129 (4)  
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Journal of Chromatography A 1285 40-47

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*Application of the evaporative light scattering detector to analytical problems in polymer science*  
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*How Well Can DFT Reproduce Key Interactions in Ziegler-Natta Systems?*  
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D. Mekap, T. Macko, R. Brull, R. Cong, A.W. deGroot, A. Parrott and W. Yau  
*One-Step Method for Separation and Identification of n-Alkanes/Oligomers in HDPE Using High-Temperature High-Performance Liquid Chromatography*  
Macromolecules 46 (15) 6257-6262

E. Tioni, V. Monteil and T. McKenna  
*Morphological Interpretation of the Evolution of the Thermal Properties of Polyethylene during the Fragmentation of Silica Supported Metallocene Catalysts*  
Macromolecules 46 (2) 335-343

Z. Ma, L. Fernandez-Ballester, D. Cavallo, T. Gough and G.W.M. Peters  
*High-Stress Shear-Induced Crystallization in Isotactic Polypropylene and Propylene/Ethylene Random Copolymers*  
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Polymer 54 (21) 5518-5524

N. Patil, C. Invigorito, M. Gahleitner and S. Rastogi  
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C. Descour, T.J.J. Sciarone, D. Cavallo, T. Macko, M. Kelchtermans, I. Korobkov and R. Duchateau  
*Exploration of the effect of 2,6-(t-Bu)(2)-4-Me-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>OH (BHT) in chain shuttling polymerization*  
Polymer Chemistry 4 (17) 4718-4729

M. van Drongelen, T. Meijer-Visser, D. Cavallo, G. Portale, G. Vanden Poel and R. Androsch  
*Microfocus wide-angle X-ray scattering of polymers crystallized in a fast scanning chip calorimeter*  
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N.M.G. Franssen, J.N.H. Reek and B. de Bruin  
*A different route to functional polyolefins: olefin-carbene copolymerisation*  
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*Synthesis of functional 'polyolefins': state of the art and remaining challenges*  
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*On the "Tertiary Structure" of Poly-Carbenes; Self-Assembly of sp<sup>3</sup>-Carbon-Based Polymers into Liquid-Crystalline Aggregates*  
Chemistry-a European Journal 19 (35)  
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N.M.G. Franssen, M. Finger, J.N.H. Reek and B. de Bruin  
*Propagation and termination steps in Rh-mediated carbene polymerisation using diazomethane*  
Dalton Transactions 42 (12) 4139-4152

PERFORMANCE POLYMERS

Projects

#623: Fundamental aspects of Nano-composites

#647: New Functionalized Materials by Rh and Pd Mediated Carbene Homo-Polymerization and Olefin/Carbene Co-Polymerization

#648: Graphene-based nanocomposites- A study on the potential of grapheme, nanosheets as an alternative low-cost filler for multi-functional polymeric materials

#649: Thermoplastic elastomers via living radical graft polymerization from functional elastomers

#650: Molecular Modelling of Cavitation in Polymer Melts and Rubbers

#651: Smart Surface Modifiers for Engineering Plastics

#652: Rubber/silica nano-composites via reactive extrusion

#653: Biodegradable Thermoplastic Polyurethanes from Renewable Resources

#654: Effects of the nano-scale structure of polymer surfaces on their adhesion and friction

#656: Green Rigid blocks for Engineering plastics with ENhanced pERformance

#664: Sustainable elastomers and Thermoplastics by short fibre reinforcement

#671: Optimized plastication in extruders for better economy and product properties

#696: Self-healing thermoplastic polymers based on in-situ solvent deployment

#697: Creating multiple distributed healing in fibre composites using compartmented fibres liquid filled fibres

#742: Membranes with Adjustable Interior in their Nanopores

#743: Curable Semi-aromatic or aliphatic Semi-crystalline Thermoplastics

#744: Molecular Simulations of Polymer Networks: Stress-Strain Relations, Cavitation, and Dynamics in Confinement

#745: Microstructure-based Modeling of the Intrinsic Kinetics of Aging and Deformation of Polymer Glasses

#746: Particles at Fluid-Fluid Interfaces

#747: Polyamide/silica nanocomposites: a systematical investigation

#749: The chemistry of rubber modification and crosslinking: New approaches towards an old problem

#755: MONodisperse OLIGOamide building blocks for thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs) revisited



- #756:** Do contacts in electrically conductive particulate composites really exist? *High performance graphene- and MWCNTs-based PS/PPO composites obtained via organic solvent dispersion* Composites Science and Technology 80 16-22
- #782:** How short-cut fibers influence friction, wear and noise generation of polymers S.S. Sarkawi, W.K. Dierkes and J.W.M. Noordermeer *The influence of non-rubber constituents on performance of silica reinforced natural rubber compounds* European Polymer Journal 49 (10) 3199-3209
- #783:** Contact mechanics, Friction and contact fatigue on polymeric SURFACES N.V. Rodriguez, M.A. Masen and D.J. Schipper *A model for the contact behaviour of weakly orthotropic viscoelastic materials* International Journal of Mechanical Sciences 72 75-79
- #784:** Reactive Polymer Colloids for Design of Interfaces in Fiber/matrix Composite Materials N.V. Rodriguez, M.A. Masen and D.J. Schipper *A contact model for orthotropic-viscoelastic materials* International Journal of Mechanical Sciences 74 91-98
- #786:** Processing for Enhanced Product Performance S. Saiwari, W.K. Dierkes and J.W.M. Noordermeer *Devulcanization of Whole Passenger Car Tire Material* Kgk-Kautschuk Gummi Kunststoffe 66 (7-8) 20-25
- #788:** Predicting the Fountain Flow Instability from Material Properties and Processing conditions W. Kaewsakul, K. Sahakaro, W.K. Dierkes and J.W.M. Noordermeer *Alternative Secondary Accelerator for Silica-Filled Natural Rubber Formulations* Kgk-Kautschuk Gummi Kunststoffe 66 (9) 33-38
- #789:** Functional Polymeric Additives for Engineering Plastics D. Hudzinsky, M.A.J. Michels and A.V. Lyulin *Rejuvenation, Aging, and Confinement Effects in Atactic-Polystyrene Films Subjected to Oscillatory Shear* Macromolecular Theory and Simulations 22 (1) 71-84
- Theses** M.P.F. Pepels, M.R. Hansen, H. Goossens and R. Duchateau *From Polyethylene to Polyester: Influence of Ester Groups on the Physical Properties* Macromolecules 46 (19) 7668-7677
- Elena Miloskovska J. Wu, P. Eduard, L. Jasinska-Walc, A. Rozanski, B.A.J. Noorderver, D.S. van Es and C.E. Koning *Fully Isohexide-Based Polyesters: Synthesis, Characterization, and Structure-Properties Relations* Macromolecules 46 (2) 384-394
- Structure-property relationships of rubber/silica nanocomposites via sol-gel reaction
- Athanasios Morozinis M. Shirazi, M.B. de Rooij, A.G. Talma and J.W.M. Noordermeer *Adhesion of RFL-coated aramid fibres to elastomers: The role of elastomer-latex compatibility* Journal of Adhesion Science and Technology 27 (17) 1886-1898
- Molecular Modelling of Cavitation in Polymer Melts and Rubbers
- Nicole Franssen M. Shirazi, A.G. Talma and J.W.M. Noordermeer *Adhesion of RFL-coated aramid fibres to sulphur- and peroxide-cured elastomers* Journal of Adhesion Science and Technology 27 (9) 1048-1057
- Functional (co)polymers from carbenes
- Christian Hintze M. Shirazi, A.G. Talma and J.W.M. Noordermeer *Viscoelastic properties of short aramid fibers-reinforced rubbers* Journal of Applied Polymer Science 128 (4) 2255-2261
- Influence of processing induced morphology on mechanical properties of short aramid fibre filled elastomer composites
- Scientific publications** C. Hintze, R. Boldt, S. Wiessner and G. Heinrich *Influence of processing on morphology in short aramid fiber reinforced elastomer compounds* Journal of Applied Polymer Science 130 (3) 1682-1690
- N.M.G. Franssen, J.N.H. Reek and B. de Bruin *A different route to functional polyolefins: olefin-carbene copolymerisation* Dalton Transactions 42 (25) 9058-9068
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- M. Ghislandi, E. Tkalya, B. Marinho, C.E. Koning and G. de With *Electrical conductivities of carbon powder nanofillers and their latex-based polymer composites* Composites Part a-Applied Science and Manufacturing 53 145-151
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- N.V. Rodriguez, M.A. Masen and D.J. Schipper *Tribologically modified surfaces on elastomeric materials* Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers Part J-Journal of Engineering Tribology 227 (J5) 398-405
- C.E. Koning, R.J. Sablong, E.H. Nejad, R. Duchateau and P. Buijsen *Novel coating resins based on polycarbonates and poly(ester-co-carbonate)s made by catalytic chain growth polymerization of epoxides with CO<sub>2</sub> and with anhydride/CO<sub>2</sub>*

Progress in Organic Coatings 76 (12)  
1704-1711

V.S.D. Voet, D. Hermida-Merino,  
G. ten Brinke and K. Loos  
*Block copolymer route towards  
poly(vinylidene fluoride)/poly(methacrylic  
acid)/nickel nanocomposites*  
Rsc Advances 3 (21) 7938-7946

W. Kaewsakul, K. Sahakaro, W.K. Dierkes and  
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Silica-Reinforced Natural Rubber Compounds*  
Rubber Chemistry and Technology 86 (2)  
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T.J. Dingemans, B. Norder, S.J. Picken,  
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B. de Bruin  
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Self-Assembly of sp(3)-Carbon-Based  
Polymers into Liquid-Crystalline Aggregates*  
Chemistry-a European Journal 19 (35)  
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N.M.G. Franssen, M. Finger, J.N.H. Reek and  
B. de Bruin  
*Propagation and termination steps in  
Rh-mediated carbene polymerisation using  
diazomethane*  
Dalton Transactions 42 (12) 4139-4152

### Filed patent applications

**#742:** H.P.C. van Kuringen, A.P.H.J. Schenning,  
D.J. Boer  
Novel nanoporous membranes for removing  
species from an aqueous solution

**#747:** Y. Zhao, X. Zhu, M. Möller  
Silica spheres as nanocapsule carriers

### Reported inventions

**#742:** H.P.C. van Kuringen, A.P.H.J. Schenning,  
D.J. Boer  
Novel nanoporous membranes for removing  
species from an aqueous solution

**#747:** Y. Zhao, X. Zhu, M. Möller  
Silica spheres as nanocapsule carriers

## FUNCTIONAL POLYMER SYSTEMS

### Projects

**#626:** Hardening of elastomers (and gels) in  
response to magnetic fields

**#627:** Air-stable n-type field-effect  
transistors

**#630:** Functional polymer based nano-  
and micro-optics for solid state lighting  
management

**#631:** Triplet recombination in polymer solar  
cells

**#660:** Bulk heterojunction polymer:zinc oxide  
solar cells from novel organozinc precursors

**#661:** Structurally defined conjugated  
dendrimers and hyperbranched polymers in  
solar cells

**#677:** Understanding interactions between  
polymer surfaces and proteins: towards a  
ideal polymer biosensor substrate material

**#678:** Air stable organic photovoltaics

**#679:** Smart textiles

**#680:** Charge carrier transport and  
recombination in advanced OLEDs

**#681:** Hybrid solar cells based on Si  
nanoparticles and conjugated polymers

**#682:** Creation of functional nanostructures  
in solution/dispersion

**#762:** Solution-Processed Small-Molecule  
Tandem OPV

**#763:** Design of novel donor-acceptor  
systems with optimized morphology and  
transport

**#764:** Responsive IR reflectors based on  
polymeric cholesteric liquid crystals

**#765:** New supramolecular architectures  
exhibiting piezoelectric properties

**#766:** Responsive and self-healing  
membranes with well-defined nanopores  
using block copolymers

**#767:** Towards solution processable near-IR  
and IR-reflective coatings and mirrors with  
high transparency in the UV-visible regime

**#775:** Switchable topologies using  
responsive polymers for controlled wetting  
and self-cleaning surfaces

**#776:** Membranes with adjustable interior in  
their nanopores

**#777:** Tuning the optical properties of thin  
film coatings by using self-assembled  
protein particles

**#792:** Particle Stability and Mobility in  
Silicones

### Theses

Andreas Ringk  
Organic electronics by self-assembly

Mian Dai  
Optically and environmentally responsive  
fibres

Veronique Gevaerts  
Morphology control and device optimization  
for efficient organic solar cells

Marijn Kemper  
Non-specific protein-surface interactions in  
the context of particle-based biosensors

Stela Andrea Muntean  
Molecular-dynamics simulations of polymeric  
surfaces for biomolecular applications

### Scientific publications

M. Dai, O.T. Picot, J.M.N. Verjans,  
L.T. de Haan, A.P.H.J. Schenning, T. Peijs and  
C.W.M. Bastiaansen  
*Humidity-Responsive Bilayer Actuators  
Based on a Liquid-Crystalline Polymer  
Network*  
Acs Applied Materials & Interfaces 5 (11)  
4945-4950

O.T. Picot, M. Dai, D.J. Broer, T. Peijs and  
C.W.M. Bastiaansen  
*New Approach toward Reflective Films and  
Fibers Using Cholesteric Liquid-Crystal  
Coatings*  
Acs Applied Materials & Interfaces 5 (15)  
7117-7121

D. Di Nuzzo, G.J.A.H. Wetzelaer,  
R.K.M. Bouwer, V.S. Gevaerts,  
S.C.J. Meskers, J.C. Hummelen, P.W.M. Blom  
and R.A.J. Janssen  
*Simultaneous Open-Circuit Voltage  
Enhancement and Short-Circuit Current Loss  
in Polymer: Fullerene Solar Cells Correlated  
by Reduced Quantum Efficiency for  
Photoinduced Electron Transfer*  
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G.A.H. Wetzelaer, N.J. Van der Kaap, L.J.A. Koster and P.W.M. Blom  
*Quantifying Bimolecular Recombination in Organic Solar Cells in Steady State*  
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A. Ringk, X.R. Li, F. Gholamrezaie, E.C.P. Smits, A. Neuhold, A. Moser, C. Van der Marel, G.H. Gelinck, R. Resel, D.M. de Leeuw and P. Strohriegl  
*N-Type Self-Assembled Monolayer Field-Effect Transistors and Complementary Inverters*  
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*Origin of Reduced Bimolecular Recombination in Blends of Conjugated Polymers and Fullerenes*  
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*Factors Limiting Device Efficiency in Organic Photovoltaics*  
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L.J. Liu, S. van Bavel, S.P. Wen, X.N. Yang and J. Loos  
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Chinese Journal of Chemistry 31 (6) 731-736

R.J. de Vries, A. Badinski, R.A.J. Janssen and R. Coehoorn  
*Extraction of the materials parameters that determine the mobility in disordered organic semiconductors from the current-voltage characteristics: Accuracy and limitations*  
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*The effect of perception anisotropy on particle systems describing pedestrian flows in corridors*  
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M. Mesta, M. Carvelli, R.J. de Vries, H. van Eersel, J.J.M. van der Holst, M. Schober, M. Furno, B. Lussem, K. Leo, P. Loebel, R. Coehoorn and P.A. Bobbert  
*Molecular-scale simulation of electro-luminescence in a multilayer white organic light-emitting diode*  
Nature Materials 12 (7) 652-658

A. Ringk, W.S.C. Roelofs, E.C.P. Smits, C. van der Marel, I. Salzmann, A. Neuhold, G.H. Gelinck, R. Resel, D.M. de Leeuw and P. Strohriegl  
*N-Type self-assembled monolayer field-effect transistors for flexible organic electronics*  
Organic Electronics 14 (5) 1297-1304

D. Di Nuzzo, S. van Reenen, R.A.J. Janssen, M. Kemerink and S.C.J. Meskers  
*Evidence for space-charge-limited conduction in organic photovoltaic cells at open-circuit conditions*  
Physical Review B 87 (8)

P. de Bruyn, A.H.P. van Rest, G.A.H. Wetzelaer, D.M. de Leeuw and P.W.M. Blom  
*Diffusion-Limited Current in Organic Metal-Insulator-Metal Diodes*  
Physical Review Letters 111 (18)

O.T. Picot, R. Alcala, C. Sanchez, M.A. Dai, N.F. Hughes-Brittain, D.J. Broer, T. Peijs and C.W.M. Bastiaansen  
*Manufacturing of Surface Relief Structures in Moving Substrates Using Photoembossing and Pulsed-Interference Holography*  
Macromolecular Materials and Engineering 298 (1) 33-37

O.T. Picot, M. Dai, E. Billoti, D.J. Broer, T. Peijs and C.W.M. Bastiaansen  
*A real time optical strain sensor based on a cholesteric liquid crystal network*  
Rsc Advances 3 (41) 18794-18798

### Filed patent application

#775: D. Liu, D.J. Broer  
Manipulating surface structures by a liquid crystal network

### Reported inventions

#775: D. Liu, Dirk J. Broer  
Fresnel lens with adaptive light intensity response

#775: D. Liu, D.J. Broer  
Manipulating surface structures by a liquid crystal network

#775: D. Liu, D.J. Broer  
Surfaces with adjustable friction and grip

## COATINGS TECHNOLOGY

### Projects

#658: Waterborne polyurethane dispersions based on renewable resources

#675: Drying of a waterborne coating: spontaneous phase inversion in jammed systems

#676: UV to daylight curing of organic coatings

#713: Physical aspects and modeling of weathering of polyester-urethane coatings

#758: Self-replenishing hydrophobic coatings with intrinsic hardness cured by LED's

#759: Novel Isocyanate-free, Chain-Extended Polyurethane Dispersions Containing Alternative Internal Dispersing Agents

#760: Microstructure control in polyurethane (PU) ionomers

#779: Preparation and Characterization of Model Waterborne Clearcoats

#780: Self-replenishing high-surface-energy coatings

#781: Film Formation in Complex Colloidal Coatings

### Scientific publications

H.J. Zhu, H.P. Huinink, P.C.M.M. Magusin, O.C.G. Adan and K. Kopinga  
*T-2 distribution spectra obtained by continuum fitting method using a mixed Gaussian and exponential kernel function*  
Journal of Magnetic Resonance 235 109-114

H.J. Zhu, H.P. Huinink, O.C.G. Adan and K. Kopinga  
*NMR Study of the Microstructures and Water-Polymer Interactions in Cross-Linked Polyurethane Coatings*  
Macromolecules 46 (15) 6124-6131

D. Senatore, A.T. ten Cate, J. Laven, R.A.T.M. van Benthem and G. de With  
*Temperature-triggered release of a liquid cross-linker micro-encapsulated in a glassy polymer for low temperature curing*  
Polymer 54 (1) 75-83

H.H. Feng, N.A.L. Verstappen, A.J.C. Kuehne and J. Sprakel  
*Well-defined temperature-sensitive surfactants for controlled emulsion coalescence*  
Polymer Chemistry 4 (6) 1842-1847

H.H. Feng, J. Sprakel, D. Ershov, T. Krebs, M.A.C. Stuart and J. van der Gucht  
*Two modes of phase inversion in a drying emulsion*  
Soft Matter 9 (10) 2810-2815

## Thesis

Huanhuan Feng  
Understanding and manipulating coalescence in dense emulsions

## Reported invention

**#758:** Y. Zhang, C. Rocco, A. C. C. Esteves, L. G. J. van der Ven, R. A. T. M. van Benthem, C. Croutxe-Barghorn, X. Allonas, G. de With  
New self-replenishing coatings

.....  
HIGH-THROUGHPUT EXPERIMENTATION

## Projects

**#620:** Rapid-prototyping and inkjet printing using polyurethane precursors

**#666:** 3D Printing of Hydrogels Based on Liquid Free-Form Fabrication of Modified Polysaccharides

**#668:** Microwave-assisted synthesis of polyamides from amines and carboxylic acids

**#690:** Libraries of poly (ethylene oxide) via parallel living anionic polymerization

**#729:** High-throughput screening technologies applied to compatibility maps

**#730:** Cellular pharmacokinetics of polymers for drug delivery - A high-throughput approach to polymers with optimum targeting characteristics

## Scientific publications

A. Teichler, S. Holzer, J. Nowotny, F. Kretschmer, C. Bader, J. Perelaer, M.D. Hager, S. Hoepfner and U.S. Schubert  
*Combinatorial Screening of Inkjet Printed Ternary Blends for Organic Photovoltaics: Absorption Behavior and Morphology*  
Acs Combinatorial Science 15 (8) 410-418

A.C. Rinkenauer, A. Vollrath, A. Schallon, L. Tauhardt, K. Kempe, S. Schubert, D. Fischer and U.S. Schubert  
*Parallel High-Throughput Screening of Polymer Vectors for Nonviral Gene Delivery: Evaluation of Structure-Property Relationships of Transfection*

Acs Combinatorial Science 15 (9) 475-482

K. Kempe, K.L. Killups, J.E. Poelma, H.J. Jung, J. Bang, R. Hoogenboom, H. Tran, C.J. Hawker, U.S. Schubert and L.M. Campos  
*Strongly Phase-Segregating Block Copolymers with Sub-20 nm Features*  
Acs Macro Letters 2 (8) 677-682

T. Janoschka, A. Teichler, B. Haupler, T. Jahnert, M.D. Hager and U.S. Schubert  
*Reactive Inkjet Printing of Cathodes for Organic Radical Batteries*  
Advanced Energy Materials 3 (8) 1025-1028

M.J. Barthel, T. Rudolph, A. Teichler, R.M. Paulus, J. Vitz, S. Hoepfner, M.D. Hager, F.H. Schacher and U.S. Schubert  
*Self-Healing Materials via Reversible Crosslinking of Poly(ethylene oxide)-Block-Poly(furfuryl glycidyl ether) (PEO-b-PFGE) Block Copolymer Films*  
Advanced Functional Materials 23 (39) 4921-4932

S. Bode, L. Zedler, F.H. Schacher, B. Dietzek, M. Schmitt, J. Popp, M.D. Hager and U.S. Schubert  
*Self-Healing Polymer Coatings Based on Crosslinked Metallosupramolecular Copolymers*  
Advanced Materials 25 (11) 1634-1638

U. Mansfeld, S. Hoepfner and U.S. Schubert  
*Investigating the Motion of Diblock Copolymer Assemblies in Ionic Liquids by In Situ Electron Microscopy*  
Advanced Materials 25 (5) 761-765

B.L. Farrugia, K. Kempe, U.S. Schubert, R. Hoogenboom and T.R. Dargaville  
*Poly(2-oxazoline) Hydrogels for Controlled Fibroblast Attachment*  
Biomacromolecules 14 (8) 2724-2732

A.M. Breul, M.D. Hager and U.S. Schubert  
*Fluorescent monomers as building blocks for dye labeled polymers: synthesis and application in energy conversion, biolabeling and sensors*  
Chemical Society Reviews 42 (12) 5366-5407

L. Tauhardt, K. Kempe, M. Gottschaldt and U.S. Schubert  
*Poly(2-oxazoline) functionalized surfaces: from modification to application*  
Chemical Society Reviews 42 (20) 7998-8011

M. Jager, H. Gorls, W. Gunther and U.S. Schubert  
*Pd-Catalyzed Ring Assembly by Vinylolation and Intramolecular Heck Coupling: A Versatile Strategy Towards Functionalized Azadibenzocyclooctynes*  
Chemistry-a European Journal 19 (6) 2150-2157

J. Schafer, A. Breul, E. Birckner, M.D. Hager, U.S. Schubert, J. Popp and B. Dietzek  
*Fluorescence Study of Energy Transfer in PMMA Polymers with Pendant Oligo-Phenylene-Ethynyls*  
Chemphyschem 14 (1) 170-178

E. Atuntas, C. Weber, K. Kempe and U.S. Schubert  
*Comparison of ESI, APCI and MALDI for the (tandem) mass analysis of poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline)s with various end-groups*  
European Polymer Journal 49 (8) 2172-2185

A. Teichler, Z. Shu, A. Wild, C. Bader, J. Nowotny, G. Kirchner, S. Harkema, J. Perelaer and U.S. Schubert  
*Inkjet printing of chemically tailored light-emitting polymers*  
European Polymer Journal 49 (8) 2186-2195

A.M. Breul, J. Schafer, E. Altuntas, M.D. Hager, A. Winter, B. Dietzek, J. Popp and U.S. Schubert  
*Incorporation of Polymerizable Osmium(II) Bis-terpyridine Complexes into PMMA Backbones*  
Journal of Inorganic and Organometallic Polymers and Materials 23 (1) 74-80

E. Rettler, S. Hoepfner, B.W. Sigusch and U.S. Schubert  
*Mapping the mechanical properties of biomaterials on different length scales: depth-sensing indentation and AFM based nanoindentation*  
Journal of Materials Chemistry B 1 (22) 2789-2806

A. Teichler, J. Perelaer and U.S. Schubert  
*Inkjet printing of organic electronics - comparison of deposition techniques and state-of-the-art developments*  
Journal of Materials Chemistry C 1 (10) 1910-1925

A. Wild, A. Teichler, C.L. Ho, X.Z. Wang, H.M. Zhan, F. Schlutter, A. Winter, M.D. Hager, W.Y. Wong and U.S. Schubert  
*Formation of dynamic metallo-copolymers by inkjet printing: towards white-emitting materials*  
Journal of Materials Chemistry C 1 (9) 1812-1822

J. Perelaer and U.S. Schubert  
*Novel approaches for low temperature sintering of inkjet-printed inorganic nanoparticles for roll-to-roll (R2R) applications*  
Journal of Materials Research 28 (4) 564-573

F.M. Wolf, J. Perelaer, S. Stumpf, D. Bollen, F. Kriebel and U.S. Schubert  
*Rapid low-pressure plasma sintering of inkjet-printed silver nanoparticles for RFID antennas*  
Journal of Materials Research 28 (9) 1254-1261



- C. Weber, S. Rogers, A. Vollrath, S. Hoepfener, T. Rudolph, N. Fritz, R. Hoogenboom and U.S. Schubert  
*Aqueous solution behavior of comb-shaped poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline)*  
Journal of Polymer Science Part a-Polymer Chemistry 51 (1) 139-148
- D. Heine, C. Pietsch, U.S. Schubert and W. Weigand  
*Controlled radical polymerization of styrene-based models of the active site of the [FeFe]-hydrogenase*  
Journal of Polymer Science Part a-Polymer Chemistry 51 (10) 2171-2180
- C. Pietsch, J. Schafer, R. Menzel, R. Beckert, J. Popp, B. Dietzek and U.S. Schubert  
*Forster Resonance Energy Transfer in Poly(methyl methacrylates) Copolymers Bearing Donor-Acceptor 1,3-Thiazole Dyes*  
Journal of Polymer Science Part a-Polymer Chemistry 51 (22) 4765-4773
- E. Altuntas, A. Krieg, A. Baumgaertel, A.C. Crecelius and U.S. Schubert  
*ESI, APCI, and MALDI tandem mass spectrometry of poly(methyl acrylate)s: A comparison study for the structural characterization of polymers synthesized via CRP techniques and the software application to analyze MS/MS data*  
Journal of Polymer Science Part a-Polymer Chemistry 51 (7) 1595-1605
- U. Mansfeld, A. Winter, M.D. Hager, W. Gunther, E. Altuntas and U.S. Schubert  
*A Homotelechelic bis-terpyridine macroligand: One-step synthesis and its metallo-supramolecular self-assembly*  
Journal of Polymer Science Part a-Polymer Chemistry 51 (9) 2006-2015
- T.S. Druzhinina, C. Hoppener, S. Hoepfener and U.S. Schubert  
*Hierarchical, Guided Self-Assembly of Preselected Carbon Nanotubes for the Controlled Fabrication of CNT Structures by Electrooxidative Nanolithography*  
Langmuir 29 (24) 7515-7520
- A. Wild, A. Teichler, C. von der Ehe, A. Winter, M.D. Hager, B. Yao, B.H. Zhang, Z.Y. Xie, W.Y. Wong and U.S. Schubert  
*Zn-II Bisterpyridine Metallopolymers: Improved Processability by the Introduction of Polymeric Side Chains*  
Macromolecular Chemistry and Physics 214 (10) 1072-1080
- J. Kotteritzsch, S. Stumpf, S. Hoepfener, J. Vitz, M.D. Hager and U.S. Schubert  
*One-Component Intrinsic Self-Healing Coatings Based on Reversible Crosslinking by Diels-Alder Cycloadditions*  
Macromolecular Chemistry and Physics 214 (14) 1636-1649
- T. Jahnert, B. Haupler, T. Janoschka, M.D. Hager and U.S. Schubert  
*Synthesis and Charge-Discharge Studies of Poly(ethynylphenyl)galvinoxyles and Their Use in Organic Radical Batteries with Aqueous Electrolytes*  
Macromolecular Chemistry and Physics 214 (22) 2616-2623
- A. Teichler, J. Perelaer and U.S. Schubert  
*Screening of Film-Formation Qualities of Various Solvent Systems for pi-Conjugated Polymers Via Combinatorial Inkjet Printing*  
Macromolecular Chemistry and Physics 214 (5) 547-555
- A. Teichler, J. Perelaer, F. Kretschmer, M.D. Hager and U.S. Schubert  
*Systematic Investigation of a Novel Low-Bandgap Terpolymer Library via Inkjet Printing: Influence of Ink Properties and Processing Conditions*  
Macromolecular Chemistry and Physics 214 (6) 664-672
- E. Rettler, J.M. Kranenburg, S. Hoepfener, R. Hoogenboom and U.S. Schubert  
*Verification of Selected Key Assumptions for the Analysis of Depth-Sensing Indentation Data*  
Macromolecular Materials and Engineering 298 (1) 78-88
- A. Vollrath, D. Pretzel, C. Pietsch, I. Perevyazko, R. Menzel, S. Schubert, G.M. Pavlov, D. Weiss, R. Beckert and U.S. Schubert  
*Preparation, Cellular Internalization, and Biocompatibility of Highly Fluorescent PMMA Nanoparticles (vol 33, pg 1791, 2012)*  
Macromolecular Rapid Communications 34 (3) 280-280
- C. Weber, M. Wagner, D. Baykal, S. Hoepfener, R.M. Paulus, G. Festag, E. Altuntas, F.H. Schacher and U.S. Schubert  
*Easy Access to Amphiphilic Heterografted Poly(2-oxazoline) Comb Copolymers*  
Macromolecules 46 (13) 5107-5116
- G.M. Pavlov, K. Knop, O.V. Okatova and U.S. Schubert  
*Star-Brush-Shaped Macromolecules: Peculiar Properties in Dilute Solution*  
Macromolecules 46 (21) 8671-8679
- K. Kempe, E.F.J. Rettler, R.M. Paulus, A. Kuse, R. Hoogenboom and U.S. Schubert  
*A systematic investigation of the effect of side chain branching on the glass transition temperature and mechanical properties of aliphatic (co-)poly(2-oxazoline)s*  
Polymer 54 (8) 2036-2042
- U. Mansfeld, A. Winter, M.D. Hager, R. Hoogenboom, W. Gunther and U.S. Schubert  
*Orthogonal self-assembly of stimuli-responsive supramolecular polymers using one-step prepared heterotelechelic building blocks*  
Polymer Chemistry 4 (1) 113-123
- U. Mansfeld, A. Winter, M.D. Hager, G. Festag, S. Hoepfener and U.S. Schubert  
*Amphiphilic supramolecular A(B)(2)A quasi-triblock copolymers*  
Polymer Chemistry 4 (11) 3177-3181
- K. Kempe, S. Onbulak, U.S. Schubert, A. Sanyal and R. Hoogenboom  
*pH degradable dendron-functionalized poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline) prepared by a cascade "double-click" reaction*  
Polymer Chemistry 4 (11) 3236-3244
- B. Sandmann, B. Happ, J. Vitz, M.D. Hager, P. Burtscher, N. Moszner and U.S. Schubert  
*Photoinduced polyaddition of multifunctional azides and alkynes*  
Polymer Chemistry 4 (14) 3938-3942
- S. Bode, R.K. Bose, S. Matthes, M. Ehrhardt, A. Seifert, F.H. Schacher, R.M. Paulus, S. Stumpf, B. Sandmann, J. Vitz, A. Winter, S. Hoepfener, S.J. Garcia, S. Spange, S. van der Zwaag, M.D. Hager and U.S. Schubert  
*Self-healing metallopolymers based on cadmium bis(terpyridine) complex containing polymer networks*  
Polymer Chemistry 4 (18) 4966-4973
- T. Rudolph, K. Kempe, S. Crotty, R.M. Paulus, U.S. Schubert, I. Krossing and F.H. Schacher  
*A strong cationic Bronsted acid, [H(OEt<sub>2</sub>)(2)]-[Al{OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)(3)}(4)], as an efficient initiator for the cationic ring-opening polymerization of 2-alkyl-2-oxazolines*  
Polymer Chemistry 4 (3) 495-505
- E. Altuntas, C. Weber and U.S. Schubert  
*Detailed characterization of poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline)s by energy variable collision-induced dissociation study*  
Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry 27 (10) 1095-1100
- A. Vollrath, A. Schallon, C. Pietsch, S. Schubert, T. Nomoto, Y. Matsumoto, K. Kataoka and U.S. Schubert  
*A toolbox of differently sized and labeled PMMA nanoparticles for cellular uptake investigations*  
Soft Matter 9 (1) 99-108
- M.J. Barthel, U. Mansfeld, S. Hoepfener, J.A. Czaplewska, F.H. Schacher and U.S. Schubert  
*Understanding and tuning the self-assembly of polyether-based triblock terpolymers in aqueous solution*  
Soft Matter 9 (13) 3509-3520

U. Mansfeld, S. Hoepfener, K. Kempe, J.M. Schumers, J.F. Gohy and U.S. Schubert  
*Tuning the morphology of triblock terpoly (2-oxazoline)s containing a 2-phenyl-2-oxazoline block with varying fluorine content*  
Soft Matter 9 (25) 5966-5974

K. Knop, G.M. Pavlov, T. Rudolph, K. Martin, D. Pretzel, B.O. Jahn, D.H. Scharf, A.A. Brakhage, V. Makarov, U. Mollmann, F.H. Schacher and U.S. Schubert  
*Amphiphilic star-shaped block copolymers as unimolecular drug delivery systems: investigations using a novel fungicide*  
Soft Matter 9 (3) 715-726

## Filed patent application

#620: S. Wünsch, J. Perelaer, A. Teichler, U.S. Schubert  
Induction Flash Sintering by Microwave Radiation

## Reported inventions

#668: F. Kretschmer, S. Hoepfener, U.S. Schubert  
High speed, microwave-induced metal nanoparticle formation in low melting materials

#729: B. Steinhoff, U.S. Schubert  
Multiple analysis by a flexible wellplate

#730: A. Schallon, A.C. Rinkenauer, L. Tauhardt, K. Kempe, U.S. Schubert  
Effective transfection by novel drug carrier polymers

## BIO-INSPIRED POLYMERS

### Projects

#686: Thermal Catch and Release

#687: Functionality of novel amphiphilic biomaterials synthesized by enzymatic linking of food polysaccharides, food proteins and fatty acids

#688: Lessons from biomineralization: Self-Organizing and Mineralization-Directing Block Copolymers

#689: Bio-inspired hairy surfaces for actuation or sensing, produced with roll-to-roll technology

#737: Exploring novel biobased polymers comprising furandicarboxylic acids, 2,2,4,4-tetramethyl 1,3-cyclobutanediol (CDBO) derivatives and substituted hydroxy benzoic acids as biobased rigid monomers

#738: Tailored water-based materials assembled from sponge-like building blocks

#739: Melt processable Bio-based Aromatic Polymers

#740: Enzymatic catalysis for the production of biobased monomers and polymers based upon them

## Theses

Silvia van Kempen  
Molecular assembly, interfacial rheology and foaming properties of oligofructose fatty acid esters

Yogesh Deshmukh  
Influence on hydrogen bonding efficiency of structural modification

## Scientific publications

C. von der Ehe, J.A. Czaplewska, M. Gottschaldt and U.S. Schubert  
*Synthesis of thermoresponsive glycopolymers via ATRP of N-isopropylacrylamide and N-allylacrylamide and subsequent thiol-ene reaction*  
European Polymer Journal 49 (9) 2660-2669

S.E.H.J. van Kempen, C.G. Boeriu, H.A. Schols, P. de Waard, E. van der Linden and L.M.C. Sagis  
*Novel surface-active oligofructose fatty acid mono-esters by enzymatic esterification*  
Food Chemistry 138 (2-3) 1884-1891

S.E.H.J. van Kempen, K. Maas, H.A. Schols, E. van der Linden and L.M.C. Sagis  
*Interfacial properties of air/water interfaces stabilized by oligofructose palmitic acid esters in the presence of whey protein isolate*  
Food Hydrocolloids 32 (1) 162-171

S.E.H.J. van Kempen, H.A. Schols, E. van der Linden and L.M.C. Sagis  
*The Effect of Diesters and Lauric Acid on Rheological Properties of Air/Water Interfaces Stabilized by Oligofructose Lauric Acid Monoesters*  
Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry 61 (32) 7829-7837

C. Allolio, N. Salas-Illanes, Y.S. Desmukh, M.R. Hansen and D. Sebastiani  
*H-Bonding Competition and Clustering in Aqueous Lil*  
Journal of Physical Chemistry B 117 (34) 9939-9946

B. Yeniad, N.O. Koklukaya, H. Naik, M.W.M. Fijten, C.E. Koning and A. Heise

*Synthesis of enantiopure homo and copolymers by raft polymerization and investigation of their enantioselective lipase-catalyzed esterification*

Journal of Polymer Science Part a-Polymer Chemistry 51 (1) 84-93

Y. Wang, Y. Gao, H. Wyss, P. Anderson and J. den Toonder  
*Out of the cleanroom, self-assembled magnetic artificial cilia*  
Lab on a Chip 13 (17) 3360-3366

B. Yeniad, H. Naik, C.E. Koning and A. Heise  
*Enantioselective Enzymatic Modification of Chiral Block Copolymers*  
Macromolecular Chemistry and Physics 214 (5) 556-562

S.E.H.J. van Kempen, H.A. Schols, E. van der Linden and L.M.C. Sagis  
*Non-linear surface dilatational rheology as a tool for understanding microstructures of air/water interfaces stabilized by oligofructose fatty acid esters*  
Soft Matter 9 (40) 9579-9592

Y.S. Deshmukh, R. Graf, M.R. Hansen and S. Rastogi  
*Dissolution and Crystallization of Polyamides in Superheated Water and Concentrated Ionic Solutions*  
Macromolecules 46 (17) 7086-7096

## Filed patent applications

#737: S. Thiyagarajan, R. Knoop, D. van Es  
Biobased semi-crystalline polyesters (I)

#737: S. Thiyagarajan, R. Knoop, D. van Es  
Biobased semi-crystalline polyesters (II)

#739: C.H.R.M. Wilsens, B.A.J. Noordover, S. Rastogi  
Bio-based liquid crystal polyesters

## Reported inventions

#737: S. Thiyagarajan, R. Knoop, D. van Es  
Biobased semi-crystalline polyesters (I)

#737: S. Thiyagarajan, R. Knoop, D. van Es  
Biobased semi-crystalline polyesters (II)

#737: S. Thiyagarajan, R. Knoop, D. van Es  
Biobased semi-crystalline polyesters (III)

#739: C.H.R.M. Wilsens, B.A.J. Noordover, S. Rastogi  
Bio-based liquid crystal polyesters

## Projects

**#640:** Engineering the morphology of organic (semi)-conductor layers

**#659:** Crosslinkable Semiconductors for Robust Polymer Electronics

**#704:** Forming processes in metal oxide organic light-emitting diodes

**#733:** Solution processed multilayer polymeric light-emitting diodes

**#734:** Predictive processing of polymer: fullerene solar cells

**#735:** Solution-processable low-temperature oxide semiconductors for large-area electronics

**#741:** Inkjet Printing of Suspensions

**#748:** Organic semiconductors blended into a crosslinkable insulator: Separating processability from optoelectronic functionality

**#752:** Looking down the rabbit hole: impact of porosity in the (in)organic layers on the performance of moisture permeation multi-layer barriers

## Thesis

Mingtao Lu  
Polymer Light-Emitting Diodes with Doped Charge Transport Layers

## Scientific publications

Y.H. Lin, H. Faber, K. Zhao, Q.X. Wang, A. Amassian, M. McLachlan and T.D. Anthopoulos  
*High-Performance ZnO Transistors Processed Via an Aqueous Carbon-Free Metal Oxide Precursor Route at Temperatures Between 80-180 degrees C*  
Advanced Materials 25 (34) 4689-4689

Q. Chen, H.L. Gomes, P.R.F. Rocha, D.M. de Leeuw and S.C.J. Meskers  
*Reversible post-breakdown conduction in aluminum oxide-polymer capacitors*  
Applied Physics Letters 102 (15)

P.R.F. Rocha, A. Kiazadeh, D.M. De Leeuw, S.C.J. Meskers, F. Verbakel, D.M. Taylor and H.L. Gomes  
*The role of internal structure in the anomalous switching dynamics of metal-oxide/polymer resistive random access memories*  
Journal of Applied Physics 113 (13)

S. Kouijzer, J.J. Michels, M. van den Berg, V.S. Gevaerts, M. Turbiez, M.M. Wienk and R.A.J. Janssen  
*Predicting Morphologies of Solution Processed Polymer: Fullerene Blends*  
Journal of the American Chemical Society 135 (32) 12057-12067

B.J. Brasjen, H. Gu and A.A. Darhuber  
*Dewetting of thin liquid films on chemically patterned substrates: front propagation along narrow lyophobic stripes and stripe arrays*  
Microfluidics and Nanofluidics 14 (3-4) 669-682

J.J. van Franeker, W.P. Voorthuijzen, H. Gorter, K.H. Hendriks, R.A.J. Janssen, A. Hadipour, R. Andriessen and Y. Galagan  
*All-solution-processed organic solar cells with conventional architecture*  
Solar Energy Materials and Solar Cells 117 267-272

## Filed patent application

**#734:** J.J. van Franeker, X. Lou, M.M. Wienk, R.A.J. Janssen  
Process for preparing novel polymeric solar cells

## Reported inventions

**#704:** B.F. Bory; S.C.J. Meskers  
Novel LED's: Light Emitting Alkali Halides

**#734:** J.J. van Franeker, X. Lou, M.M. Wienk, R.A.J. Janssen  
Process for preparing novel polymeric solar cells

**#735:** Y-H. Lin, T. Anthopoulos  
Reliable and reproducible low temperature processing of multilayer inorganic oxide TFT's

## ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY

### Projects

**#716:** Design of new chemical products (polymers and amphiphilics) for EOR

**#736:** Relating Polymer Rheology to Apparent Viscosity in Poreus Media

**#778:** Strategies towards industrial production of new (branched) polyacrylamide structures for EOR

## Thesis

Diego Wever  
Synthesis and evaluation of novel linear and branched polyacrylamides for enhanced oil recovery

## Scientific publications

D.A.Z. Wever, F. Picchioni and A.A. Broekhuis  
*Branched polyacrylamides: Synthesis and effect of molecular architecture on solution rheology*  
European Polymer Journal 49 (10) 3289-3301

D.A.Z. Wever, F. Picchioni and A.A. Broekhuis  
*Comblike Polyacrylamides as Flooding Agent in Enhanced Oil Recovery*  
Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research 52 (46) 16352-16363

D.A.Z. Wever, L.M. Polgar, M.C.A. Stuart, F. Picchioni and A.A. Broekhuis  
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Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research 52 (47) 16993-17005

D.A.Z. Weyer, E. Riemsma, F. Picchioni and A.A. Broekhuis  
*Comb-like thermoresponsive polymeric materials: Synthesis and effect of macro-molecular structure on solution properties*  
Polymer 54 (21) 5456-5466

## EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

### Project

**#761:** Reactive Liquid Crystal Oligomers as Precursors Towards Composite Resins

## CORPORATE RESEARCH

### Projects

**#598:** Application of time resolved X-ray diffraction techniques for study on structural and morphological changes during polymerization and processing

**#615:** 3-D tomographic reconstruction of local morphology and properties of polymer systems with nanometric resolutions by means of TEM and AFM

**#693:** Elastin-Functionalized Silica Particles

#694: Modelling of draw resonance and related instabilities in polymer processes	Fiber spinning under filament pull-out conditions	Journal of the American Chemical Society 135 (30) 10922-10925
#695: Optical microscopy for nanoscale imaging	Chrysostomos Batistakis Molecular simulations of confined ultrathin polymer films: structure, dynamics and mechanical behavior	D.Q. Liu, C.W.M. Bastiaansen, J.M.J. den Toonder and D.J. Broer <i>(Photo-)Thermally Induced Formation of Dynamic Surface Topographies in Polymer Hydrogel Networks</i> Langmuir 29 (18) 5622-5629
#698: Designer Polypeptides for Self-Assembled Delivery Vehicles	Marta Dobrowolska The Stabilizer-Free Emulsion Polymerization	I. Vukovic, H. Friedrich, D.H. Merino, G. Portale, G. ten Brinke and K. Loos <i>Shear-Induced Orientation of Gyroid PS-<i>b</i>-P4VP(PDP) Supramolecules</i> Macromolecular Rapid Communications 34 (15) 1208-1212
#699: Artificial flagella: Nature-inspired micro-object manipulation using responsive polymers	Danqing Liu Responsive surface topographies	B. McCulloch, G. Portale, W. Bras, J.A. Pople, A. Hexemer and R.A. Segalman <i>Dynamics of Magnetic Alignment in Rod-Coil Block Copolymers</i> Macromolecules 46 (11) 4462-4471
#700: The Ultimate Stabilizer-Free Emulsion Polymerization		S. Naderi and P. van der Schoot <i>Collective stringlike motion of semiflexible filamentous particles in columnar liquid crystalline phases</i> Physical Review E 88 (3)
#701: Understanding the visco-elasticity of elastomer-based nanocomposites		S. Naderi, E. Pouget, P. Ballesta, P. van der Schoot, M.P. Lettinga and E. Grelet <i>Fractional Hoppinglike Motion in Columnar Mesophases of Semiflexible Rodlike Particles</i> Physical Review Letters 111 (3)
#715: Novel Polyimide Architectures: Towards Membranes with Tunable Transport Properties	J. Ciric and K. Loos <i>Synthesis of branched polysaccharides with tunable degree of branching</i> Carbohydrate Polymers 93 (1) 31-37	M.L. Petrus, R.K.M. Bouwer, U. Lafont, D.H.K. Murthy, R.J.P. Kist, M.L. Bohm, Y. Olivier, T.J. Savenije, L.D.A. Siebbeles, N.C. Greenham and T.J. Dingemans <i>Conjugated poly(azomethine)s via simple one-step polycondensation chemistry: synthesis, thermal and optoelectronic properties</i> Polymer Chemistry 4 (15) 4182-4191
#717: All-aromatic heterocyclic liquid crystal polymers for photovoltaic applications	L.Y. Yu, X.R. Li, E. Pavlica, F.P.V. Koch, G. Portale, I. da Silva, M.A. Loth, J.E. Anthony, P. Smith, G. Bratina, B.K.C. Kjellander, C.W.M. Bastiaansen, D.J. Broer, G.H. Gelinck and N. Stingelin <i>Influence of Solid-State Microstructure on the Electronic Performance of 5,11-Bis(triethylsilylethynyl) Anthradithiophene</i> Chemistry of Materials 25 (9) 1823-1828	D.Q. Liu, C.W.M. Bastiaansen, J.M.J. den Toonder and D.J. Broer <i>Single-composition three-dimensionally morphing hydrogels</i> Soft Matter 9 (2) 588-596
#727a: Improved characterization techniques for branched polymers	J.E. Stumpel, D.Q. Liu, D.J. Broer and A.P.H.J. Schenning <i>Photoswitchable Hydrogel Surface Topographies by Polymerisation-Induced Diffusion</i> Chemistry-a European Journal 19 (33) 10922-10927	G. Portale, D. Cavallo, G.C. Alfonso, D. Hermida-Merino, M. van Drongelen, L. Balzano, G.W.M. Peters, J.G.P. Goossens and W. Bras <i>Polymer crystallization studies under processing-relevant conditions at the SAXS/WAXS DUBBLE beamline at the ESRF</i> Journal of Applied Crystallography 46 1681-1689
#727b: (Oligo)cellulose by enzymatic polymerisation		M. van Drongelen, T. Meijer-Vissers, D. Cavallo, G. Portale, G. Vanden Poel and R. Androsch <i>Microfocus wide-angle X-ray scattering of polymers crystallized in a fast scanning chip calorimeter</i> Thermochimica Acta 563 33-37
#727c: Polymers go even greener		
<b>BRM</b> Multi-scale structure and mechanics of collagenous materials		
Structure and evolution of high-density protein systems	E.G. Dere, H. Sharma, R.M. Huizenga, G. Portale, W. Bras, V. Bliznuk, J. Sietsma and S.E. Offerman <i>Formation of (Fe,Cr) carbides and dislocation structures in low-chromium steel studied in situ using synchrotron radiation</i> Journal of Applied Crystallography 46 (1) 181-192	
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Non-linear rheology I		
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Theory-modelling		
<b>Theses</b> Carina van der Walt		



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Scientific Reports 3

### Reported invention

**#717:** M.L. Petrus , T.J. Dingemans  
Novel organic solar cells by small molecules

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### EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BRAZIL

### Projects

**#768:** Silica nanoparticles and graphene nanosheets - a catalysts approach for controlled polyolefin reactor intermixing

**#769:** High performance Stereocomplex of Poly(lactic acid) SC-PLA

**#770:**Antimicrobial recombinant polymers for treatment of nosocomial infections

**#771:** Silica nanoparticles - a Catalysts Approach for Polyolefin Reactor Intermixed Compounds with Controlled intermixing of polyOlefins

**#772:**Emergent properties of biomolecular systems: structural/dynamic characterization and development of new functionalities

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### EXCHANGE PROGRAMME CHINA

### Projects

**#779a:** Preparation and Characterization of Model Waterborne Clearcoats

**#794:** Microbial Synthesis of Functional Polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHA)

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## DPI ...

DPI is a foundation funded by Dutch industry, universities and the government which was set up to perform exploratory research in the area of polymer materials.

DPI operates at the interface of universities and industry, linking the scientific skills of university research groups to the industrial need for innovation.

DPI carries out pre-competitive research projects to add value to the scientific community through scientific publications and to the industrial community through the creation of intellectual property.

DPI provides a unique platform for generating awareness of new technology, in which participating industrial companies, competitors in the market place, communicate on a pre-competitive basis to trigger innovation.

DPI integrates the scientific disciplines and know-how of universities into the 'chain of knowledge' needed to optimise the conditions for making breakthrough inventions and triggering industrial innovation.

DPI aims to combine scientific excellence with a genuinely innovative impact in industry, thereby creating a new mindset in both industrial and academic research.

DPI aims to fill the innovation gap between industry and universities and so resolve the Dutch Paradox of scientific excellence and lack of innovation.

Some 200 researchers (PhDs and Post-Docs) are currently involved in DPI projects at knowledge institutes throughout the world.



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