

FIZ CHEMIE Berlin demonstrates multimedial teaching and learning modules from the strategic BMBF project VS-C at the ACHEMA 2003 / New form of education in chemistry / Experts day at the GDCh stand on Saturday, the 24th May

VS-C delivers the virtual Gas Chromatograph and Other Educational Material for Chemistry

Berlin, 14th May 2003 - Educators in chemistry at colleges and in industry will soon be able to put together their courses with multimedial teaching material in the same way that they now do this with textbooks and experiments. Germany's "Chemistry Information Centre" (Fachinformationszentrum Chemie, FIZ CHEMIE Berlin) will be exhibiting prototypes of multimedial educational building blocks on various chemical themes in Hall 1.2 at Stand No. E25A at this year's ACHEMA 2003 trade fair and exhibition which takes place in Frankfurt am Main between the 19th and 24th May. This electronic material is being developed within the "Network for Chemistry Education ("Vernetztes Studium – Chemie", VS-C) project with financial support of the German Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, BMBF). In all, 16 partners are taking part in the VS-C project, including research groups at 13 German universities. On the 24th May an "expert's day" with information about studying chemistry in Germany will be held at the stand of the German Chemical Society (Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker e.V., GDCh) for students and prospective students of chemistry. This expert's day will also include a special presentation of VS-C. The GDCh stand is also located in Hall 1.2, No. C23 – D 24.

Teaching modules as building bricks for preparing educational courses, for the preparation of laboratories and practicals and for self-study courses will be demonstrated. Each module is complete within itself and deals with a single subject of chemistry (such as in general chemistry, the chemical behaviour of metal crystals or hydrocarbons) and are easy to understand because of dynamic visualisations. Other modules permit the simulation of phase equilibria, experiments with a virtual gas chromatograph or the modelling of new pharmaceuticals (drug design). A particularly impressive module from the development group at the Technical University of Berlin visualises the processes involved in nuclear magnetic resonance.

The VS-C project is not designed to be a virtual college of chemistry but rather it has been conceived to support traditional education in chemistry at universities and colleges and in industry. Lectures, exercises and practicals are easy to construct from the modules and because of the system's logical didactical structure, students can use the multimedial material to individually customise their course according to their requirements.

Project details are available in the Internet at the VS-C homepage "www.vs-c.de" or at FIZ CHEMIE's site "www.chemistry.de".

For additional information

FIZ CHEMIE Berlin
Postfach 12 03 37
D-10593 Berlin

Internet: www.fiz-chemie.de
E-mail: info@fiz-chemie.de

Contact

Dr. Anthony Flambard
Head, Marketing & Sales
Phone: +49 (0)30 / 399 77- 140
Fax: +49 (0)30 / 399 77- 132
E-Mail: arf@fiz-chemie.de

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