

12th International Workshop on "Application of Electrochemical Techniques to Organic Coatings" (AETOC)

Cavalese - Val di Fiemme, Italy, on 29 March– 1 April 2022

After one year's postponement due to the Covi19 pandemic, the 12th International Workshop on "Application of Electrochemical Techniques to Organic Coatings" (AETOC) – EFC event n. 475 - took place in Cavalese - Val di Fiemme, Italy, on 29 March– 1 April 2022. This workshop has been created to promote intensive exchanges and fruitful discussions amongst scientists and engineers who have fundamental and/or applicative research about organic coatings using electrochemical techniques.

This workshop has been organized every two years and took place previously in Schliffkopf (Germany), Jurata (Poland), Sintra (Portugal), Villard de Lans (France), Bayona (Spain), Grado (Italy), Mons (Belgium), Emmetten (Switzerland), Ile de Ré (France), Billerbeck (Germany) and Valencia (Spain). In spring 2022 the international workshop took place in the nearby of Cavalese (60 km North-East Trento, Italy), a little village surrounded by two natural parks and stunning Dolomite peaks (Unesco World Heritage Site) dominating the South-Tyrolean canyon of Bletterbach, Mountain group of Latemar and the park Paneveggio Pale di San Martino.

The conference has been organized by the "Corrosion and Coating" group of the University of Trento: Massimo Calovi, Andrea Cristoforetti, Flavio Deflorian, Michele Fedel, Stefano Rossi, and Francesca Russo, supported by the UniTrento Communication Office (Picture 1).

The AETOC2022 conference has been the first occasion for the people of the working party Coatings to meet in person after the travel limitations due to the pandemic. Tired of being forced to switch to videoconferencing, the delegates showed a strong willingness to get together, discuss, debate, and enjoy the company of old and new friends (Picture 2).

Along with a constant debate on electrochemical impedance spectra and their interpretation, many emerging issues, such as the application of robust computational methods to study organic coatings, were brought to the audience. The high quality of the scientific debate and the remarkable involvement of young scientists in the discussion demonstrated that the organic coatings community is prepared to tackle the post-pandemic challenges.

The hiking tour consisted of a walk from the San Pellegrino pass (1.918 m asl) to the Fuciade mountain hut (Picture 3) through an "almost flat" mountain trail. A soft snowfall and a magic haze accompanied the delegates to the dinner place. The social dinner was held at the Fuciade mountain hut, where the delegates had the chance to taste the traditional dishes of the Italian alpine territory.

On behalf of the organizing committee, I would like to thank Wolfram Fürbeth (Dechema, Germany), Marjorie Olivier (University of Mons, Belgium) and Joerg Vogelsang (SIKA, Switzerland) for their advice and support, in particular during the uncertain times of the pandemic. Special thanks to Anna Fazion and Sara Chinellato from the Organizing Secretariat for their great efforts, hard work, and psychological support.

Finally, good luck to Arjan Mol and his group, who eagerly welcome you to AETOC2024 in the Netherlands!

Michele Fedel



Picture 1. Local organizing committee



Picture 2. Group picture



Picture 3. Hiking tour