



Fact sheet

Expoquimia 2026, The International Chemistry Event and Process Industries

Dates

2- 5 June 2026

Edition

21

Frequency

Every three years

Sphere

Professional

Year of the first edition

1965

Held at the same time

Equiplast, International Plastics and Rubber Meeting

Location

Hall 2. Fira Barcelona's Gran Via venue.

Av. Joan Carles I, 64

08908 L'Hospitalet de Llobregat

Timetable

2-4 June: From 09:30 am to 6:30 pm

5 June: From 09:30 am to 4:00 pm

Stand surface

13,600 net m2 (*Expoquimia only*) +34% compared to 2023

26,000m2 net (*together with Equiplast*) +25% compared to 2023

Exhibitors

427 (*Expoquimia only*) +44% compared to 2023

800 (*together with Equiplast*) +35% compared to 2023

Brands represented

950 (*Expoquimia only*)

More than 1,500 (*together with Equiplast*)

Visitors

21,000 (*joint forecast with Equiplast*)

Activities

150

Speakers

More than 300

Main activities

- **Industry Showcase:** Presentation of success stories around four axes: Decarbonisation and energy transition, circular water management, innovation in materials, and advanced digitalisation applied to industry.
- **Smart Chemistry:** Forum organised by FEIQUE on the keys to competitiveness, innovation and industrial transition in the chemical industry within the framework of the *Green Industry Deal*.
- **16th Mediterranean Congress of Chemical Engineering (MeCCE)**
- **Innovation Hub – Innovation Day** Exhibition and presentation space on innovation, with technology centres, startups and spin-offs
- **Enginers Day:** transformation experiences in decarbonization and energy transition explained by Schneider Electric; Sener; Technip Energies and Técnicas Reunidas
- **International program:** *Japan Day* and *Egypt day* to identify business opportunities for the chemical sector in these markets.
- **Gala dinner of the chemical sector.** Oval Room Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya - MNAC (3 June. 8.15 pm)
- **Best-in-class awards** (3 June at the gala dinner) to Moeve, L'Oréal Groupe, Lefance and Almirall
- **Expoquimia awards** (4 June. 5pm) for the career of companies, entities and professionals in the chemical industry

Side events

- Industry 4.0 Forum (2 June) organised by the Association of Industrial Engineers of Catalonia
- Conferences, conferences, presentations and meetings organised by different entities and companies such as Accio; Adecagua; AEQT Associació d'Empreses Químiques de Tarragona; APQ Logistics Platform; Spanish Maintenance Association (AEM); Beauty Cluster; Bequinor; Official College of Chemists of Catalonia; European Chemical Regions Network (ECRN); FEIQUE; Spanish Institute of Cement and its Applications; Netpharma; Spanish Society of Cosmetic Chemists (SEQC); or Stanpa, among others.

Organized by

Fira de Barcelona

President of the Organizing Committee

Carles Navarro

Director

Xavier Pascual

Media Relations

Maria Dolors Herranz / Josep Lluís Mérida Tel. 93 233 25 41 – 21 14

mdherranz@firabarcelona.com

jmerida@firabarcelona.com

On-line press accreditation [here](#)

Possibility of being accredited in person during the days of the event in the press room of the Gran Via venue (Hall Europa. Plant -1) presenting the required documentation that certifies that you work or collaborate in a means of communication.

Images (previous editions) [here](#)



Expoquimia 2026 drives the green industrial transformation with more offering and innovation

- The event surpasses 400 exhibitors (+44%) and features 150 activities with 300 speakers underscoring the strategic role of chemistry
- The coincidence with the Equiplast plastics show reinforces the synergies between two key sectors in the sustainable transition

From 2 to 5 June, Expoquimia will celebrate its 60th anniversary with one of its largest editions in recent years, exceeding 400 exhibitors—44% more than in 2023—and over 1,000 represented brands. In an industrial context shaped by competitive pressure, the energy transition, and rapid technological acceleration, Fira de Barcelona's event will once again position chemistry as a key sector for the evolution of the entire production system. It will be held alongside Equiplast, the international meeting point for the plastics and rubber industries, at the Gran Via venue.

Chemistry plays a critical role in 98% of manufacturing processes and is a key enabler in strategic sectors such as energy, healthcare, mobility, and advanced materials.

For all of them, Expoquimia will showcase the market's leading innovations across areas including basic chemicals and raw materials, machinery and capital goods, pumps and valves, laboratory equipment, engineering and automation, pharma process solutions, industrial safety, and environmental technologies. Leading companies such as Air Liquide, BASF, Bondalti, Bosch Iberia, Carbueros Metálicos, Covestro, Marchesini, Messer, Moeve, Quimidroga, Scharlab, Sener and Telstar, among others, will take part.

Expoquimia's president, Carles Navarro, highlights that *"chemistry is the science of sciences and the industry of industries; its cross-cutting nature makes it an essential element in advancing towards a more sustainable and competitive production model."* In this regard, he adds that *"Expoquimia provides the space where industry, science, and public administrations can share solutions and accelerate industrial transformation."*

Meanwhile, the event director, Xavier Pascual, notes that *"the growth of this edition strengthens Expoquimia's position as a benchmark platform for the industry, both for business generation and knowledge exchange."*

Industry Showcase: technology and sustainability

In addition to expanding its exhibition space and commercial offering, Expoquimia is enhancing its activities programme this year with 150 sessions and more than 300 experts who will analyse the key factors shaping the current transformation of both the chemical sector and industry as a whole.

One of the main highlights will be the Industry Showcase area, featuring sessions focused on real-world applications of chemical industry solutions across sectors, covering areas such as decarbonization, circular water management, advanced materials, and digitalisation, including the use of artificial intelligence.

Within this framework, leading companies and organisations will present ongoing projects and share practical experiences. Participating entities include Verdemobil Biogaz, the Tarragona Chemical Business Association (AEQT), Ercros, Moeve, the Catalan Energy Efficiency Cluster (CEEC), LC Paper, BASF, Schneider Electric, the Catalan Water Partnership (CWP), CELSA, the Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB), Natura Bissé, Kern Pharma, L'Oréal, Stanpa and Aqua España, among others.

Green transition and competitiveness

Another major highlight will be the Smart Chemistry forum organised by the Spanish Chemical Industry Business Federation (FEIQUE), which will address industrial competitiveness and the role of chemistry as a key driver of the green transition through a programme of conferences, debates, and SmartTalks led by major companies and organisations.

The programme will feature success stories and real technological solutions presented by leading companies and organisations such as AEQT, Air Liquide, BASF, Bondalti, Carbueros Metálicos, Covestro, Ercros, Moeve, Quimidroga and Repsol, among others.

At the same time, Expoquimia will host a new edition of the Mediterranean Congress of Chemical Engineering (MeCCE), bringing together over 300 professionals from industry, research, and academia. The congress will feature international experts in sustainability, digitalisation, and emerging technologies, including Cristina Alonso Alija (UNIJES IQS), Selina Ambrose (Promethean Particles), Benoit Celse (IFP Energies Nouvelles), Juan M. Lema (University of Santiago de Compostela), Andrea Ramírez Ramírez (Delft University of Technology) and Marina Micari (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne).

This year, the event will also launch the Innovation Hub, a dedicated space connecting technology centres, universities, startups, and companies working on disruptive projects related to decarbonization, digitalisation, energy efficiency, and the circular economy. It will be complemented by the Innovation Day presentation programme, structured into three thematic blocks—energy transition and sustainability, research and advanced technologies, and innovation and talent—with the participation of organisations and companies such as ACCIO, ICAEN, Viver CleanTech, CAPEC, ICIQ, IQS, Nanomol Technologies, Eurecat, Associació Tecnio, FUNDAE and Mafer.

Expoquimia will also host Engineers Day, organised in collaboration with the Catalan Association of Industrial Engineers, focusing on the role of engineering in industrial decarbonization. On the international front, the event will dedicate two sessions to exploring business opportunities and technology transfer in Egypt and Japan. Additionally, it will host more than 40 side events organised by companies and sector associations such as the Official Association of Chemists of Catalonia (COQC), pharmaceutical consultancy ManageArt, Bequinqor, and the Beauty Cluster, among others.

Gala Dinner: 60 years and best-in-class

This year, Expoquimia will celebrate six decades and 21 editions at its traditional Gala Dinner, to be held on 3 June at the Oval Hall of the National Art Museum of Catalonia (MNAC), bringing together more than 700 executives and institutional and industry representatives. The event will feature Katja Scharpwinkel, member of the BASF SE Executive Board and former vice-president of the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic), as keynote speaker.

On this occasion, Expoquimia and Equiplast will present the Best-in-Class awards, recognising Moeve, L'Oréal Groupe, Lefance and Almirall in the field of chemistry, and SEAT & CUPRA in plastics.

In addition, Expoquimia will pay tribute to companies, organisations, and professionals who have made a decisive contribution to the development of the chemical industry in Spain and to the evolution of the event over its 60-year history.

Joint celebration with Equiplast

Expoquimia 2026 will take place from 2 to 5 June in Hall 2 at Fira de Barcelona's Gran Via venue, once again alongside Equiplast in Hall 3. This dual event offers a cross-sector view of innovation across the entire industrial value chain. Together, both exhibitions will bring together 800 exhibitors and are expected to attract 21,000 professionals, strengthening synergies between the chemical and plastics sectors in areas such as advanced materials, sustainability, circular economy, and digitalisation.

Barcelona, May 2026

Maria Dolores Herranz / Josep Lluís Mérida
Tel. 932 332 541 – 114
mdherranz@firabarcelona.com
jmerida@firabarcelona.com

PRESS REGISTRATION [HERE](#)





Expoquimia 2026 places the roadmap towards the new industry at the centre of the debate

- Decarbonisation, water management, new materials and advanced digitalisation, the focus of the *"Industry Showcase" conferences*
- Companies such as Ercros, BASF, Covestro, Kern Pharma, L'Oréal, Almirall and Moeve will share real cases of industrial transformation

From 2 to 5 June, Expoquimia 2026 will analyse the keys to the new industry in its "Industry Showcase" conference space with more than 25 sessions including presentations of real projects, technical presentations and round tables. Leading companies in the sector, together with clusters, technology centres and sectoral associations, will share their experiences and strategies to move towards more sustainable, efficient and digitalised production models.

The "Industry Showcase" programme will revolve around four main axes: decarbonisation and energy transition, circular water management, innovation in materials, and advanced digitalisation and artificial intelligence applied to industry. The sessions will combine strategic vision, sectoral debate and practical application, with the aim of offering useful and transferable knowledge to the industrial fabric. The success stories of specific applications will be highlighted, including the *best-in-class* of this edition, which will receive recognition during the Expoquimia gala dinner.

Decarbonisation and the reduction of the carbon footprint will be the focus of the first day of the programme. The day will begin with an institutional session dedicated to the main challenges of the energy transition in industry, followed by the presentation of business experiences that already integrate solutions to move towards low-carbon models.

Projects for the capture, purification and liquefaction of biogenic CO₂ in biogas plants, cases of green hydrogen implementation, as well as roadmaps towards zero emissions in large energy consumers will be presented. Ercros, Verdemobil Biogaz, Moeve and the Association of Chemical Companies of Tarragona (AEQT) will participate in this block.

The day will be completed with a round table organised by the Efficient Energy Cluster of Catalonia (CEEC), in which representatives from BASF, Schneider Electric, LC Paper, Grifols and La Farga will discuss the technical and economic feasibility of decarbonisation, the role of process electrification and the use of digitalisation as a lever to improve energy efficiency.

Circular water management

Sponsored by Xylem, the second day will focus on sustainable water management, in a context marked by climate change and the need to strengthen the water resilience of the industrial sector. The program will address the water transition from a comprehensive perspective, combining technological innovation, public-private collaboration and business experiences.

The sessions will include success stories in industrial water cycle planning and optimization, pioneering projects based on digital twins for efficient and safe water management, as well as advanced models of water circularity in sectors such as cosmetics and the pharmaceutical industry. Companies such as Celsa, Spin, Natura Bissé, Cantabria Labs and L'Oréal Groupe, together with entities such as Stanpa, Catalan Water Partnership, AMB, AITASA and Aqua España, will share solutions aimed at reducing consumption and improving operational efficiency through the reuse of resources, alternative collection and digital monitoring systems.

Innovation in materials

The third day will be dedicated to innovation in materials and the role of chemistry as a driver of technological disruption in strategic sectors. The programme will analyse how advanced polymers, biomaterials, new ingredients and functional surfaces allow applications to be developed with better technical performance and lower environmental impact.

Covestro, Vega Chargers, Alier and Carinsa will present their experiences, while Leitat will promote a round table focused on the analysis of trends, challenges and opportunities in the development of new materials. For its part, the IQS will address the challenges of transferring from the laboratory to industry, improving competitiveness and the contribution of chemistry to areas such as construction, health or advanced manufacturing.

Digitalization and AI applied to industry

On the last day, the "*Industry Showcase*" will emphasize the digital transformation of industries, with special attention to artificial intelligence, automation and advanced data management. The program will show real applications of AI in industrial plants, digital tools to improve training and decision-making, and solutions to optimize *compliance* and *supply chain processes*.

BASF, Kern Pharma, Eurofragrance and Almirall, together with technology partners such as Sener and Kemchain, will present practical cases of digitalisation of operations, AI-based assistants and digital roadmaps that allow progress towards more agile, autonomous and efficient organisations. The block will close with a sectoral round table on technological trends and digital innovation in the chemical industry.

Best-in-class

The "*Industry Showcase*" will also be the stage for the presentation of the four projects recognized as *best-in-class* of this edition of Expoquimia. These are Moeve's new IPA plant in Palos de la Frontera, an example of decarbonisation and industrial autonomy; the Waterloop project of L'Oréal Groupe in Burgos, focused on the circularity of water on an industrial scale; Lefance, a fashion accessories firm that uses a material developed by Beyond Leather with the participation of Covestro, which transforms apple waste into leather alternatives; and Almirall's digital energy twin, which applies artificial intelligence to optimise industrial energy management.

Barcelona, May 2026

CHECK OUT THE INDUSTRY SHOWCASE PROGRAMME [HERE](#)

Moeve, L'Oréal Groupe, Lefance and Almirall, *best-in-class* at Expoquimia 2026

- These will receive recognition during the show's Gala Dinner and will star in the "Industry Showcase" conference space
- These are industrial transformation projects driven by chemistry, focusing on decarbonisation, water use, new materials and digitalisation

Moeve's new plant in Huelva, the first in Spain to produce isopropyl alcohol; L'Oréal Groupe's factory in Burgos, a pioneer in water reuse and recycling; Lefance's fashion accessories, made using a solution developed by Beyond Leather in collaboration with Covestro, and Almirall's digitalised and smart factory will be the four projects to receive the Expoquimia 2026 best-in-class award as examples of innovation and sustainable transformation through chemistry. They will also be the featured success stories at the fair's "Industry Showcase" conference area.

Expoquimia 2026, the International Meeting of the Chemical and Process Industries organised by Fira de Barcelona, will combine a growing commercial offering with a programme of activities focused on applied knowledge, real-world case studies and high-level networking. Within this framework, Expoquimia's 'best-in-class' initiative will highlight these national industrial projects in which chemistry acts as a catalyst for change to advance sustainability, efficiency and digitalisation.

In this regard, one of the projects awarded by Expoquimia this year is the one being promoted by Moeve in Palos de la Frontera (Huelva): the launch of Spain's first isopropyl alcohol (IPA) production plant. A pioneering project that will form part of the Andalusian Green Hydrogen Valley, as it is designed to operate sustainably using this energy source. The facility will use acetone as a raw material and, through a hydrogenation process, will produce high-purity IPA with high operational efficiency and cost competitiveness.

Driven by the company's Positive Motion strategy, Moeve's IPA plant has involved an investment of over 80 million euros. Its recognition as 'best-in-class' highlights the plant's innovative nature and the strategic importance of IPA, a key product for public health due to its use in the manufacture of hand sanitisers, disinfectants and other hygiene products.

L'Oréal Group, circular water

L'Oréal Group's international factory in Burgos, one of its most advanced production centres, is another project recognised by the exhibition as an international benchmark for water efficiency thanks to its Waterloop model, a closed-loop system that enables water to be recycled and reused within the industrial environment. In 2025, the plant managed to save a total of 67,000 m³ of water, the equivalent of 27 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

This approach minimises water consumption and moves towards fully circular water management in industry, integrating environmental sustainability, operational efficiency and advanced production. The project exemplifies how chemistry and process engineering make it possible not only to reduce consumption, but also to continuously recover, treat and return water to the industrial cycle.

Lefance, new materials

Expoquimia has also highlighted the project by the Spanish sustainable fashion brand Lefance for its efforts to promote the use of alternative materials to leather, made from agri-

food waste, for the manufacture of garments, accessories and other high value-added products.

Of particular note is the Leap® solution from Beyond Leather, which is derived from apple waste and represents a sustainable, high-performance alternative to animal leather. It is a vegan material with a low carbon footprint and durability and strength comparable to those of leather, qualities achieved largely thanks to Covestro's INSQIN® coating technology, based on water-based polyurethanes.

Overall, this material demonstrates the role of chemistry in creating more circular alternatives that are less dependent on conventional raw materials. The 'Best in Class' recognition highlights the industry's ability to transform waste into sustainable, commercially viable materials with new performance characteristics.

Almirall, digital transformation

Finally, the trade fair has included Almirall among this year's award winners for its new, innovative plant, which is more sustainable and energy-efficient. To achieve this, it has undertaken a digital transformation plan that integrates automation and digitalisation, data analysis, artificial intelligence and technologies such as the digital twin of its Sant Andreu de la Barca plant, which enables real-time decision-making regarding the consumption of its energy mix.

The aim is to improve traceability, operational efficiency, quality and decision-making in an environment where precision and reliability are critical. Its selection as 'best in class' highlights a digital transformation with a real impact on production and industrial management, going beyond the mere incorporation of new technologies.

These four 'best-in-class' projects will be presented in the Industry Showcase conference area at Expoquímia, whose programme is structured around key drivers of industrial transformation: decarbonisation, water management, new materials and digitalisation.

SEAT & CUPRA, Equiplast's 'Best in Class'

Meanwhile, the Equiplast trade fair, held alongside Expoquímia, will award its 'Best in Class' recognition to SEAT & CUPRA for their innovative circular strategy in the production of plastic parts using new materials and biopolymers. Specifically, the car manufacturer promotes the use of recycled and renewable materials, such as SEAQUAL® YARN, derived from plastics recovered from the sea, or Dinamica® microfibre, made from 73% recycled polyester using a water-based process, amongst others.

This success story, meanwhile, will be presented as part of Equiplast's 'Rethinking Plastic' lecture programme as a benchmark case in circularity and the development of new solutions for plastics.

The projects will receive their awards during the Gala Dinner to be held on 3 June in the Oval Room of the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC). The dinner will bring together more than 700 representatives from leading companies, sector associations and institutional bodies, and will serve to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Expoquímia, highlighting the strategic role of the chemical and plastics industries in the sustainable and competitive transformation of the productive fabric.

Barcelona, May 2026

EXPOQUIMIA

The International Chemistry Event
and Process Industries

feiQue | Federación Empresarial
de la Industria
Química Española


Fira Barcelona

2-5 June 2026
www.expoquimia.com

Smart Chemistry focuses its agenda on competitiveness and industrial innovation

- The forum promoted by Feique within Expoquimia proposes 35 sessions on energy, investment and technological solutions
- The programme addresses the strategic role of chemistry in the transition to a climate-neutral economy

Smart Chemistry will once again be one of the reference spaces of Expoquimia, the International Meeting of Chemistry and Process Industries, which will be held from 2 to 5 June at the Gran Via venue of Fira de Barcelona. The forum, promoted by the Business Federation of the Spanish Chemical Industry (Feique), will focus its agenda on the factors that today condition the competitiveness of the sector and on the technological and industrial solutions that are setting the pace of the transition towards a climate-neutral economy.

Under the slogan *Green Industry Deal*, Smart Chemistry will offer a program with 35 *Smart Talks*, conferences and round tables with nearly 60 speakers, including experts, executives of leading companies, and institutional representatives. The forum will analyse key issues such as competitive energy, decarbonisation, technological innovation, strategic autonomy, the circular economy, attracting investment and talent.

The 2026 edition is based on a shared conviction: Europe will not be able to make effective progress towards its climate goals without a strong and competitive chemical industry. As an industry of industries, chemicals are present in 98% of production activities and are essential to make the transformation of value chains viable.

In a context marked by regulatory pressure, high energy costs and growing global competition, Smart Chemistry wants to focus both on the strategic priorities that mark the future of the sector and on the solutions that are already helping to strengthen its industrial capacity, preserve production, attract investment and maintain technological leadership.

"Europe will not be able to achieve climate neutrality if it does not have a strong chemical industry, capable of continuing to innovate and generate value. Smart Chemistry wants to make this strategic role of the sector visible, connecting industrial competitiveness and climate transition," says Juan Antonio Labat, CEO of Feique.

Participating companies

This Feique forum will feature 17 leading companies and organizations that will present technologies, industrial solutions and business experiences already underway. Among them are the Chemical Business Association of Tarragona (AEQT), Air Liquide, BASF, Bondalti, Carburos Metálicos, the Center for Technological Development and Innovation (CDTI), ChemMed, Covestro, Ercros, FEQPA, Foresa, Grupo Industrias Químicas del Ebro (IQE), Messer, Moeve, Química del Cinca, Quimidroga and Repsol.

Smart Chemistry also has the support of ChemSpain, Foro Química y Sociedad, SusChem España, ANQUE and FEPIQ as institutional partners, reinforcing its character as a meeting point for the chemical-industrial ecosystem.

Technologies for the decarbonisation of industrial processes, energy efficiency and electrification, the role of hydrogen and other renewable gases, as well as initiatives linked to the capture, use and storage of CO₂ will be discussed. Advances in circular economy, chemical recycling and waste recovery will also be addressed, along with developments in

premsa | press | prensa

sustainable materials and polymers, digitalisation and artificial intelligence applied to production.

The sessions will provide information on experiences related to the financing of R+D+i projects, the decarbonisation of industrial plants, the deployment of green hydrogen projects, waste recovery, emissions control and the integration of artificial intelligence into production processes.

Institutional debate and industrial policy

Together with the *Smart Talks*, the programme will include a block of institutional round tables conceived as spaces for analysis and reflection on the priorities that today condition the future of the chemical sector. These sessions will address key issues such as the need to have a competitive energy price, trade defence and access to new markets, the protection of strategic productive capacities, the financing of industrial investment, the improvement of the regulatory framework or the attraction and development of talent.

These priorities are directly connected to the major challenges facing the chemical industry in Europe. In this context, Smart Chemistry wants to convey a clear message: strengthening the competitiveness of the chemical sector is also strengthening the European climate transition.

Meeting point at Expoquimia

Over the last decade, Smart Chemistry has established itself as the major benchmark for the Spanish chemical industry at Expoquimia. In the 2023 edition it was the most visited space at the show and in 2026 it will once again act as a point of connection between companies, institutions and agents in the industrial ecosystem.

The entire agenda can be followed in person from the Smart Chemistry Agora, in Hall 2, stand E-54, and also in *streaming* through the Feique and Expoquimia websites.

Madrid, May 2026

CHECK THE PROGRAM [here](#)

Esmeralda Honrubia

Director of Communication and CSR

Tel.: 91431794 | 690011962 | ehm@feique.org

Rosa Sepúlveda

Media, Digital and Outreach Coordinator

Tel.: 914317964 | 691047081 | rosasepulveda@feique.org



Mediterranean
Congress on
Chemical
Engineering

EXPOQUIMIA

The International Chemistry Event
and Process Industries



2-5 June 2026

<https://www.mecce.org/>

The Mediterranean Congress of Chemical Engineering defines sustainable industry

- **Advances in decarbonisation, digitalisation and AI, energy transition, circular economy and new materials, the main programme themes**
- **Cristina Alonso Alija, Selina Ambrose, Benoit Celse, Juan M. Lema, Andrea Ramírez and Marina Micari, keynote speakers at the MeCCE**

From 2 to 5 June, the Mediterranean Congress of Chemical Engineering (MeCCE) will bring together more than 300 professionals from the academic and industrial fields to share the latest advances in the transformation of process industries towards more sustainable, digital and efficient models. The programme will present research and projects related to decarbonisation, energy transition, circular economy, digitalisation and new materials.

In addition to looking at new solutions in these areas, MeCCE, which will take place at Fira de Barcelona's Gran Via venue, will also present innovations in water treatment, bioengineering, food, fine chemistry and pharmaceuticals, along with new approaches to teaching chemical engineering. In this edition, the congress has 135 speakers and will include 24 sessions between plenary sessions and oral presentations, as well as a hundred scientific posters.

The plenary sessions will be led by six international leaders in sustainability, digitalisation and emerging technologies. They are Cristina Alonso Alija (UNIJES-IQS), Selina Ambrose (Promethean Particles), Benoit Celse (IFP Energies Nouvelles), Juan M. Lema (University of Santiago de Compostela), Andrea Ramírez (Delft University of Technology) and Marina Micari (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)). All of them will share their research and projects to advance in the ecological transition of process industries from chemical engineering.

Industrial processes with lower impact

Cristina Alonso Alija, director of the UNIJES Research Center in Ecology and Environment at IQS and global director at Bayer until 2023, will open the congress with a presentation to reflect on the role of sustainability in business strategy. In his presentation, he will develop how the principles of the circular economy, resource efficiency and responsible industrial design can become engines of economic and social progress.

Selina Ambrose, product manager at British chemical manufacturer Promethean Particles, will explain how metal-organic materials (MOFs) capture CO₂ and facilitate efficient storage. In addition, showing how production on an industrial scale allows this technology to be applied in real processes, opening up new opportunities for the energy transition.

Benoit Celse, a researcher at IFP Energies Nouvelles, will address how artificial intelligence and hybrid models are transforming the design and operation of chemical plants. His intervention will focus on digital twins, virtual models that simulate industrial processes in real time to optimize production, reduce costs and improve sustainability.

Juan M. Lema, professor emeritus and scientific coordinator of the Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Environmental Technologies (CRETUS) of the University of Santiago de Compostela, will present decisive advances in water treatment and environmental biotechnology. Through real cases, you will see how unexpected discoveries have given rise to technologies that are essential for sustainable resource management.

Finally, Andrea Ramírez Ramírez, professor at Delft University of Technology, will analyse the challenges of decarbonising large industrial complexes. His presentation will highlight how to replace fossil raw materials with alternatives such as CO₂, biomass and waste, and how these transformations impact interconnected value chains.

European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE) Forum

As a novelty, this year the Mediterranean Congress of Chemical Engineering, chaired by Rosa Nomen, professor emeritus of the IQS – Universitat Ramon Llull, extends its duration by one day, until Friday, June 5. That day will include a Forum of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE) on energy transition with a plenary session, introduced by the president of the entity, Jarka Glassey, by Marina Micari, researcher at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). Micari specializes in gas and liquid separation, as well as process modeling and optimization. Her work is aimed at promoting efficient solutions for industrial decarbonisation and sustainability, as she will explain at the forum.

The session will be followed by a panel discussion on the role of chemical engineering in promoting the circular economy, climate neutrality and competitiveness in process industries. In addition to Glassey and Micari, José Antonio Borque, Director of Technology at Technip Energies Iberia; Ignasi Cañagueral, director of the Dow Industrial Complex in Tarragona and the Operations Center for Southern Europe; and Oriol Martínez, founding member and director of engineering of GasN2.

Likewise, the MeCCE strengthens its link with Expoquimia, offering congress participants activities within the fair. In this sense, participants will be able to join the exclusive thematic tours planned for June 5 that will allow them to discover innovative solutions in the stand area. The available routes are: Innovative materials; Circular economy and water resources; Digital twins, artificial intelligence and advanced process control; Decarbonization and hydrogen; and Food engineering and bioengineering, high-purity chemicals and the pharmaceutical sector.

A consolidated appointment

Since its creation in 1978, the MeCCE has been a fundamental event for the promotion of chemical engineering both in Spain and internationally, being an essential forum for collaboration between academia and industry.

Promoted by Expoquimia, the MeCCE is organized by the Spanish Society of Industrial Chemistry and Chemical Engineering (SEQUI), the professional association of IQS alumni, AIQS Alumni, and the Association and College of Industrial Engineers of Catalonia (EIC). In this edition, the Congress is sponsored by GasN2, CPQ-EKIUM, Miwon, Briolf, Wanhua Chemical Group, Technip and Wiley.

MeCCE 2026 is one of the main activities of the Expoquimia fair, which this year celebrates its 60th anniversary, coinciding again with Equiplast, the benchmark event in the field of plastics. From 2 to 5 June, both events will have more than 800 exhibitors and are expected to exceed 21,000 visitors at Fira de Barcelona's Gran Via venue.

Barcelona, May 2026

CHECK THE PROGRAMME [HERE](#)

EXPOQUIMIA

The International Chemistry Event
and Process Industries

2-5 June 2026
www.expoquimia.com

Engineers
Industrials de Catalunya


Fira Barcelona

With Schneider Electric, Sener, Technip Energies and Técnicas Reunidas

Engineers Day will share industrial decarbonization projects at Expoquimia

Expoquimia 2026 will hold a new edition of *Engineers Day* on the afternoon of 4 June, a conference aimed at engineering professionals that will analyse four real decarbonisation and energy transition initiatives in the chemical sector, promoted by Schneider Electric, Sener, Technip Energies and Técnicas Reunidas. The session, organised by Fira de Barcelona and the Col·legi d'Enginyers Industrials de Catalunya, will combine technical conferences, a round table and spaces for professional exchange at the Gran Via venue.

The *Engineers Day* seeks to highlight the strategic role of engineering in industrial modernisation and to generate an environment for reflection on the main technological challenges of the sector. The meeting has been designed for engineering professionals, project and operations managers, R+D profiles and positions linked to decision-making in industrial environments. After the good reception of the first edition held in 2024 within the framework of Hispack, the conference returns to Expoquimia 2026 to focus on the challenge of moving towards a low-emission industry

"With Engineers Day we want to place the engineering professional at the centre of the industrial and technological debate, showing real projects that are already transforming the chemical industry and that mark the way towards a more sustainable and competitive industrial model", highlights Xavier Pascual, director of Expoquimia. *"The fair is the natural meeting point for this type of dialogue, where technological innovation is directly connected to the needs of the market and society,"* he adds.

The Association of Industrial Engineers of Catalonia (EIC) sees the initiative as an opportunity to give visibility to the group and its contribution to industrial progress. The president of the Chemical Industry Commission of the EIC, Jeroni Farnós Marsal, points out: *"engineering is key to making the major changes that the chemical industry needs a reality, from reducing emissions to improving efficiency and competitiveness"*. In this sense, he stresses that *"conferences such as Engineers Day allow us to share knowledge, generate references and reinforce the role of engineers as agents of transformation"*.

The programme will include a block of presentations by representatives of different industrial transformation initiatives promoted by leading companies. Specifically, Schneider Electric, Sener, Technip Energies and Técnicas Reunidas will participate, companies that lead the energy transition from complementary areas that cover digitalisation, intelligent control, hydrogen engineering and carbon capture technologies. The day will be completed with a round table, a recognition event and a final networking space aimed at promoting collaboration between attendees.

Enginyers Industrials de Catalunya (EIC) is the corporation that brings together the Association and brings together 10,000 engineering professionals, contributing to their professional growth and providing criteria and rigour in the analysis and proposals to society to make its purpose a reality: *"To lead technological evolution for the progress of the world and people"*.

Barcelona, May 2026

EXPOQUIMIA

The International Chemistry Event
and Process Industries

2-5 June de 2026
www.expoquimia.com



Fira Barcelona

It will bring together 700 people on June 3 at the MNAC

Expoquimia Gala Dinner to Celebrate Chemistry and Reward Industrial Innovation

On the occasion of its 60th anniversary, Expoquimia will celebrate a new edition of its Gala Dinner on June 3, one of the most outstanding social events in the chemical sector in Spain. The event will take place in the Oval Room of the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC) and will bring together 700 executives from leading companies, professional associations and institutional representatives. The evening will vindicate the transformative capacity of chemistry in process industries and its essential role in undertaking the green transition without losing competitiveness.

This great night of the chemical industry will be attended by the CEOs and other executives of the main firms and associations in the sector, promoting networking at the highest level. Due to their synergies and common objectives, representatives of companies and entities from other manufacturing sectors that use chemical solutions will also attend, including plastics, which is holding its Equiplast fair together with Expoquimia.

The president of the organizing committee of Expoquimia 2026, Carles Navarro, explains: *"Chemistry is the silent engine behind most industrial advances. With the Gala Dinner we want to vindicate the innovative and economic strength of our sector, make visible the companies that lead it and create an environment that promotes strategic alliances with the actors who, together with us, are committed to the sustainable transformation of industries."*

The evening will feature the intervention of Katja Scharpwinkel, member of the executive committee of BASF SE and former vice-president of the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic), who in her presentation will provide an international vision on the prospects of the sector and the role of chemistry in European reindustrialisation.

Likewise, during the gala, the *Best-in-Class awards will be presented*, which distinguish the five most innovative projects presented in the Industry Showcase conference spaces of *Expoquimia* and Equiplast's Rethinking Plastics. Specifically, Moeve, L'Oréal Groupe, Lefance and Almirall will be awarded in the field of chemistry, and SEAT & CUPRA in the field of plastic.

During the Gala Dinner, three special recognitions will be awarded. The honorees will be the CEO of Quimidroga, Vicenç Muñoz, for his professional career; the CEO of Moeve, José María Solana, for business strategy, as well as the founder and president of SPB Global and Quimacova, Miguel Burdeos, who died posthumously due to the effects of the 2024 DANA, for his sectoral contribution.

In the organization of the Gala Dinner, Expoquimia has the support of Bondalti, Carburos Metálicos, FEDEQUIM, Grupo IQE, Nippon Sanso, QCinca, QD Quimidroga, Siemens, BASF, Covestro, FEIQUE, Institut Químic de Sarrià (IQS), Kemira, Lleal, Leitat, Messer, Net-Pharma Hub, Quimacova, and Sener

Expoquimia is the leading trade fair in Spain for the chemical industry and is held together with the plastics trade fair, Equiplast. From 2 to 5 June, both events will bring together 800 exhibitors and expect to attract more than 21,000 visitors, focusing on the sustainable transformation of production processes.

Barcelona, May 2026



The chemical industry in Spain

- The chemical industry reaffirms itself as a consolidated sector and one of the key pillars of Spain's economic fabric, with a prominent position in competitiveness, internationalisation and innovation.
- As an essential supplier for 98% of the productive sectors, chemistry is present at the beginning of countless value chains, driving solutions for process efficiency and the decarbonization of the economy.
- Its weight as Spain's economic engine translates into the generation of 4% of the National GDP, if we add its indirect and induced effects. In terms of Industrial GDP, the chemical and pharmaceutical industry represents 11.9% of the Gross Value Added of the total manufacturing industry.
- The sector is made up of 3,048 companies that generate more than 226,000 direct jobs. If indirect and induced employment are included, the figure exceeds one million jobs (1,030,348), which is equivalent to 6.7% of the salaried active population in the private sector in Spain.
- The chemical sector closed 2025 with a turnover of 85,417 million euros, remaining stable compared to the previous year (-0.1%), in a context marked by weak European demand and pressure on energy costs.
- The chemical industry is the leading export sector of the Spanish economy, with foreign sales of around 63,000 million euros, after growing by 6.4% in 2025 and consolidating its strength in international markets.
- The chemical industry is the largest investor in R+D+i in Spanish industry with 2,262 million euros (2025 data), which represents 23.5% of total industrial investment in Spain. Likewise, the sector provides work for 22% of the research staff.
- Geographically, the provinces of Spain with a high concentration of chemical companies are Barcelona, Tarragona and Huelva. It is also an important sector in Asturias, Cantabria, the Basque Country, Madrid, Aragon, the Valencian Community, Murcia and Cadiz.
- By turnover, Catalonia is the leading territory in Spain, with 43.9% of the total.

Source: FEIQUE (Business Federation of the Spanish Chemical Industry)

See the full report [HERE](#)

2-5 June 2026

www.expoquimia.com -- www.equiplast.com

Chemicals and plastics join forces to transform industries at Expoquimia and Equiplast

- With 35% more exhibitors than in 2023, the two trade fairs will host a total of 800 exhibitors in Halls 2 and 3 of the Gran Via venue
- How to innovate and respond to energy, environmental and competitiveness challenges, the main axes of both events

From 2 to 5 June, Expoquimia and Equiplast, leading events for the Spanish chemical and plastics industries, will be held jointly at Fira de Barcelona's Gran Via venue. With 35% more companies than in 2023, the two events will bring together 800 exhibitors and 200 knowledge-sharing and networking activities, featuring 400 experts as speakers. The two trade fairs will highlight the key role of these sectors in an industrial transformation that drives applied innovation and tackles energy, environmental and competitiveness challenges in an increasingly demanding context.

Organised by Fira de Barcelona, Expoquimia and Equiplast will occupy 26,000 square metres of net exhibition space in Halls 2 and 3 of the Gran Via venue, representing a 25% increase in net stand space compared to the 2023 edition. Together, they are expected to attract more than 21,000 trade visitors.

Among the firms exhibiting at Expoquimia are leading companies such as Air Liquide, BASF, Bondalti, Bosch Iberia, Carbueros Metálicos, Covestro, Marchesini, Messer, Moeve, Quimidroga, Scharlab, Sener and Telstar, amongst others. In the case of Equiplast, the list of exhibitors includes companies such as AGI, Alimatic, Albis, Ar Sistemas, Arburg, Bada, BMB and Centrotécnica, alongside many other leading companies in the sector.

Machinery, equipment and technology will play a prominent role at both events, with the display of operational equipment for automated production processes. Expoquimia will also feature a wide range of raw materials and basic chemicals; analytical, measurement and control instrumentation; and materials and systems for surface treatment. At Equiplast, the offering will be complemented by raw materials and additives, moulds and dies, semi-finished or finished plastic products, and recycling services and solutions.

Top-class conference programme

Expoquimia and Equiplast will also feature a conference programme with around 200 sessions, focusing on innovation, sustainability and industrial competitiveness. These events will bring together 400 speakers, including experts and representatives from companies, academia, technology centres and industry associations, to discuss and reflect on the major challenges facing the chemical and plastics sectors.

At Expoquimia, the programme will be structured around the Industry Showcase, with sessions dedicated to decarbonisation, circular water management, innovation in materials and advanced digitalisation, including artificial intelligence. This will be complemented by a new edition of Smart Chemistry, the forum promoted by the Spanish Chemical Industry Business Federation (FEIQUE), focusing on industrial competitiveness and the role of chemistry in the green transition.

The programme will be rounded off by the Mediterranean Congress of Chemical Engineering (MeCCE), one of the sector's leading scientific forums in southern Europe, as well as technical conferences, professional meetings, sessions on international markets and around twenty events organised by companies and sectoral bodies.

For its part, Equiplast will launch 'Rethinking Plastic', a conference featuring sessions focused on the circular economy, recycling, advanced materials and digitalisation, with a particular emphasis on real-world case studies and best industrial practices. This event will be complemented by an exhibition of products made from sustainable plastic, designed to showcase the diversity of applications for a material with multiple life cycles, and a networking area aimed at facilitating the exchange of knowledge and the creation of new opportunities for collaboration.

Gala Dinner: celebration and awards

Expoquimia and Equiplast will also celebrate their history as major triennial industrial events, marking 60 years (21 editions) for Expoquimia and 40 years (14 editions) for Equiplast. The highlight of these celebrations will be the Expoquimia Gala Dinner, to be held on 3 June in the Oval Room of the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC) and will bring together more than 700 executives, industry representatives and institutional leaders. The event will feature a keynote speech by Katja Scharpwinkel, a member of the Executive Board of BASF SE and former Vice-President of the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC).

Within this framework, the best-in-class awards for both fairs will be presented, recognising Moeve, L'Oréal Groupe, Lefance and Almirall in the field of chemistry, and SEAT & CUPRA in the field of plastics, highlighting industrial excellence, innovation and sustainability.

During the fairs, other awards will be presented, including the Rethinking Plastic Awards, which will recognise the most innovative and sustainable products exhibited in the Equiplast showroom, and the Liderpack 2025 Awards for packaging and point-of-sale displays, organised by Graphispack Association and the Hispack fair at Fira de Barcelona. Furthermore, to mark their anniversaries, both fairs will pay a special tribute to the companies, organisations and professionals who have accompanied them on their journey.

Key sectors for the Spanish economy

The joint celebration of Expoquimia and Equiplast will provide a snapshot of two transversal and strategic industries for the Spanish economy. The chemical industry in Spain has an annual turnover of over €85 billion and leads the country's exports, with overseas sales of nearly €63 billion, according to data from the Spanish Chemical Industry Business Federation (FEIQUE).

Its role as a supplier of products and technologies to sectors such as agri-food, pharmaceuticals, automotive and mobility, construction, energy and digital technologies reinforces its strategic importance in addressing challenges such as climate change and the energy transition.

The Spanish plastics industry, for its part, generates an annual turnover of around €29 billion, equivalent to 2% of the national GDP, according to the latest data from a study commissioned by Equiplast. The sector is advancing in its transition towards the circular economy, with the aim of turning waste into a valuable resource for the manufacture of new materials and products in areas such as packaging, construction, automotive, electronics or textiles.

Barcelona, May 2026

Maria Dolores Herranz / Josep Lluís Mérida
Tel. 932 332 541 – 114
mdherranz@firabarcelona.com
jmerida@firabarcelona.com

PRESS REGISTRATION [AQUÍ](#)
EXPOQUIMIA



PRESS REGISTRATION [AQUÍ](#)
EQUIPLAST

