



### SWISS SCC – Swiss Society of Cosmetic Chemists

Founded: 1957  
IFSCC founding society: 1959  
Members: 289  
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The primary goal of the SWISS SCC (Gesellschaft Schweizer Kosmetik-Chemiker – Société Suisse des Chimistes Cosméticiens – Swiss Society of Cosmetic Chemists) is the exchange and transfer of knowledge on all levels over and above companies and countries. Interdisciplinary broadening of experience in cosmetics and beauty has first priority.

Founded in 1957, there have been various epochs of the SWISS SCC – and depending on the epoch different challenges.

The idea to found a Swiss Cosmetic Society arose at the beginning of the '50s based on the professional contacts of *Kurt Pfeiffer*, technical director of Tokalon, a company in Geneva, and *Maison G. deNavarre* from the American Society of Cosmetic Chemists.

This idea became a reality on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 1957: At that time, with nine members, the SCC was officially enlisted in the trade register in Geneva.

Kurt Pfeiffer remained the President of this new society over the following 13 years. "Swiss" was only added to the name in 1961, when it was included on

the stationary of the Swiss society, and since 1989 the logo has been "SWISS SCC". Already with the first SWISS SCC general assembly in 1960 all documents were edited bilingually – in the German and French languages. At various times in the following years the international IFSCC Council meetings were also organized in Switzerland, including in 1963 in Geneva and in 1973 in Montreux. At the beginning of 1968 the first new food legislation (article 467) was published in Switzerland – other countries were astonished that Switzerland was the first country to adopt this new legislation into cosmetics law.

At the beginning of the '70s a new committee under the 2<sup>nd</sup> President *Dr. Gustav Erlemann* took the lead with new pep and great success. The number of members increased slowly but steadily and in 1973 reached 56. The 1979 symposium organized in Bale attracted attention because of its live direct transmission from the lab to the big screen of the auditorium, which was very impressive at that time. On an international level, *Dr. Nadia Avalle* was the first Swiss member to accept the presidency of



Foundation members (from l.t.r.) – in front: André Barbier, Mr. and Mrs. Maison G. deNavarre, Robert Brun; standing: Paul Desbaumes, Kurt Pfeiffer and Francois Riodel.



Group picture of Presidents of the SWISS SCC at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration (15<sup>th</sup> of June 2007) in Zurich (from l.t.r.): Dr. Willy Huber, Dr. Gustav Erlemann, Dr. Philippe Auderset, Pierre Bottiglieri, Walter Lie.

the IFSCC; only years later in 1995 did another SWISS SCC member, *Peter Schneider*, assume the same function.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Swiss President, *Dr. Willy Huber*, took the presidency in 1980. He integrated the society of the cosmetologists into the SCC: The number of members increased from 88 to 111. In 1982, the SWISS SCC published a poster for the IFSCC Congress in Paris, which for the first time mentioned the Winter Seminar in Champfèr created by *Dr. Gustav Erlemann*. At the end of 1984 the first Forum Cosmeticum was organized by *Dr. Gustav Erlemann* and *Prof. Dr. Führer* in Bale – a Swiss-German-Austrian conference which has been established now for years and takes place every second year alternately in another German speaking country.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Swiss President *Walter Lier*, who began his presidency in 1986, already dealt intensively with "natural cosmetics": The 3<sup>rd</sup> Cosmetic Forum in Bale was extremely well attended by more than 250 participants. In 1991 the

5<sup>th</sup> President *Pierre Bottiglieri* took the presidency. In 1995, the second In-between congress of the international IFSCC took place in Montreux supported professionally by and with a younger committee responsible. Under the leadership of the President *Pierre Bottiglieri* this congress was a big success with great acceptance also on an international level.

At the beginning of 2000 the presidential team was newly assembled by the 6<sup>th</sup> President *Dr. Philippe Auderset*, bringing younger people in. The responsibility of each board member was specifically and clearly defined within the SWISS SCC. Besides scientifically excellent lectures during the general assembly, in the years from 2001-2007 this team also organized conferences and advanced training on a regular basis. At the beginning of 2000 the Champfèr Winter Seminar had to battle against obsolescence and a decrease in members. Today, after conceptual repositioning, it is a formative and dominant

pillar of the scientific offerings of the SWISS SCC, and is actively sponsored by the SWISS SCC board.

During these years the training conferences, which offered clear and distinct topics, were attended by an enormous number of members. Summaries of the conferences were regularly published in English and German in different scientific papers under the slogan: "Do a good thing and talk about it". The website of the SWISS SCC was completely revised and provides a clear introduction to the offers of the SWISS SCC.

Today the SWISS SCC, with nearly 300 members, has its feet on solid ground from a scientific and financial point of view. In addition to organizing and hosting of conferences, the SWISS SCC is also actively involved in educating students: Members of the SWISS SCC are lecturers in cosmetics at the University of Wädenswil.