



EUROPEAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COUNCIL
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NEWS RELEASE

For further information: **Caroline De Bie** +3226767289 cdb@cefic.be

Cefic bestows first Innovative Science Award to support promising toxicology research

Brussels, 16 June, 2004 – Cefic, the European Chemical Industry Council, announces the winner of the first LRI (Long-range Research) Innovative Science Award. **Dr. Roger Godschalk** of University of Maastricht, NL will receive €100,000 to conduct research on *Paternal carcinogen exposures and genetic risks in their offspring*. The award was presented yesterday in conjunction with the Federation of European Toxicologist & European Societies of Toxicology (EUROTOX) at a ceremony in Brussels.

Dr Godschalk's research investigates a new technique to determine possible transmission of DNA damage to the offspring of animals exposed to a Benzo[a]pyrene (B[a]P), a carcinogenic and mutagenic substance. This work could lead to reduced needs of animals in toxicity testing and to a better understanding of risks stemming from workplace exposure to chemicals with similar properties.

The LRI Innovative Science Award aims to support creative new research in areas not traditionally supported by funding. It particularly emphasises the need to address the interface between disciplines, and knowledge transfer from one discipline to another.

"Our congratulations to Dr Godschalk who demonstrated particular innovative flair in his approach to toxicology," says Prof. Peter Calow who chaired the Selection Panel. "All the finalists have shown high research qualities and outlined innovative research concepts. The panel congratulates everyone on their work."

The winner will be invited to present his ideas at the 10th International Congress of Toxicology in Tampere, Finland. (<http://www.ictx.org/>) Details of the presentations given by all four finalists can be found on the LRI website at www.cefic-lri.org

Note to editors:

The LRI programme is a global initiative of the chemical industry that sets out to identify and fill gaps in our understanding of the hazards posed by chemicals and to improve the techniques available for assessing the associated risks. LRI funds research in the fields of human exposure, alternatives to animal testing and environmental fate of chemicals.

EUROTOX is the Federation of national societies of toxicology in Europe, which aims to foster toxicology, both scientifically and educationally, in all countries of Europe. To this, EUROTOX organises an annual scientific congress, workshops, and postgraduate training courses. EUROTOX is actively harmonising toxicology education and training, having established the European Register of Toxicologists in 1994. It participates in the world-wide recognition of toxicologists.
<http://eurotox.umh.es/>

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