

The UK's Chemical Industries reunite at CHEMUK 2021, NEC Birmingham

As one of the first post-lockdown national trade show events scheduled at the NEC in Birmingham, CHEMUK 2021, the UK's Chemical Industries Supply Chain Expo, opened its doors on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th September, prompting delight and enthusiasm from across the sector.

Ian Stone, MD of event organisers UK Industry Events commented "In the wake of unprecedented challenges and disruptions thrown up to all industries, with the outbreak of the global Covid-19 pandemic, the CHEMUK team were so delighted to see attendee groups from across all segments of the Chemical Industries, as well as representation from across all regions...it was so satisfying to bring the industry back together again!"

Showcasing some 350+ exhibiting companies representing hundreds of product, technology and service brands supporting the broad chemicals, chemical formulated products and chemical-using industries, the busy 10,000 sqm expo floor welcomed some 2,400+ visitors (and a further 1,000+ from across exhibiting teams) over the 2 days, creating a combined 3,500+ attendance.

On this year's attendance, Ian Stone comments "With strong pre-registration levels and a great 'buzz' across industry and social channels, the industry's eagerness to engage again in a dynamic physical trade show environment was palpable and borne out as soon as the doors opened on Day 1"

Busy & Vibrant Expo

CHEMUK 2021 Expo followed on its hugely successful inaugural event, held in Harrogate in 2019 and represents the UK's only dedicated national supply chain expo for the chemicals industries, attracting highly specialised attendee groups from across the UK's chemicals, chemical products and chemical-using industries, converging to see the very latest plant, equipment, technologies, supply chain partners and specialist services driving operational performance, plant and process efficiency, sustainability goals, future-proofing, safety, compliance, supply chain fulfilment and more...

2-Day integrated conference

A packed 'free to attend' 2-day speaker programme presented 2021 attendees with some 150+ expert speakers, across the four integrated show floor stages, including feature session and panels discussing the big trends, challenges, opportunities and innovations affecting the UK's chemical industries.

Speakers and guest panellists were drawn from across the sector, contributing to some 40+ hours of overall vital market

intelligence, tech insight, best practice, case studies, solutions updates and more, for attendee groups. Big topics taking centre stage this year included Sustainability/NetZero, Post-Brexit, Green Chemistry/ Biobased, Process Intensification, Digitisation and Automation, Innovation, UK REACH, Sector Skills and more.

Great to be back 'live'

Summing up, Stone added "Nothing beats the 'live' trade show experience for networking and connections, vital intelligence, ideas, inspiration, and just soaking up your sector's current position. You can also see what is happening immediately 'over the horizon' as well as longer term, in a dynamic, spontaneous, and visually engaging way; empowering and informing those crucial next steps... Can't wait to welcome the industry back in 2022!"

... And dates for Diary: **CHEMUK 2022, 11-12 May 2022 (NEC Birmingham)**

TESTIMONIALS:

- "Airedale Chemical was delighted to play our part in our very first trade show at this year's CHEM UK. It proved to be a decisive kick start to the chemical trade show calendar and an event that certainly delivered in footfall. We look forward to showcasing all our Airedale Group business divisions at next year's event."

Daniel Marr - Group CCO - Airedale Group

- CHEMUK2021 was a fantastic opportunity for Holiferm. We are really looking forward to coming back in May 2022 to share the progress we have made and renew the relationships we have formed.

Richard Lock - Managing Director - Holiferm

- "Wow ChemUK what can I say? Such a fabulous exhibition. I don't think any of us knew what to expect this year, with the whole pandemic situation, but the event was superb.

Dr Kerry Elgie, Business Development Director, Asynt