

Curriculum : Thomas R. Govers, Ph.D.

Personal Information:

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Born: Brussels, Belgium, November 16, 1942.

Nationality: Belgian.

Languages: Fluent in English, Dutch, French.
Working knowledge of Spanish and German.

Higher Education:

Lic. Sc. (equivalent to B.A.) Inorganic & Analytical Chemistry,
University of Louvain, Belgium, 1964.

M.Sc. (1965), Ph.D. (1969), Physical Chemistry, University of Toronto,
Canada.

Professional Experience:

1969 - 1983: **Academic Career**

Teaching positions at University of Waterloo, Canada, University of Paris, France, University of Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium.

Research positions at FOM Institute for Atomic and Molecular Physics, Amsterdam, the Netherlands and the National Research Center (CNRS), Orsay, France. Last position held: Research Director with CNRS.

(Co-)author of some 60 [publications](#) and numerous invited lectures in the field of atomic- and molecular physics, chemical kinetics and spectroscopy.

Representative achievements:

Significant contributions to the development of translation spectroscopy as a tool to investigate predissociation phenomena in small molecules.

Active participation in CNRS programs focused on elementary reaction dynamics (molecular beams, emission spectroscopy, ion-molecule reactions).

Development of the TPEPICO technique for the study of state-selected ion-molecule reactions using synchrotron radiation.

Initiated several long-lasting international collaborations between experimentalists and theoreticians

1983–2001: **Industrial Career**

Air Liquide, world-wide leading company in the field of industrial and medical gases.

Successive positions:

1983 - 84: R&D Scientist

1984 - 86: Head of Analytical Laboratory

1986 - 89: Product Manager Hydrogen Europe

1989 - 92: Group Director Electronics and High Technologies

1992 - 96: Group Director Pulp & Paper Industry

1996 - 2000 : Managing Director Air Liquide Belgium and Air Liquide Luxembourg.

Representative Achievements:

As Group Director Electronics and High Technologies successfully managed a delocalized business team and positioned Air Liquide to become a major supplier of gases and services to the Semiconductor Industry.

As Group Director Pulp & Paper Industry firmly established Air Liquide as N°1 supplier of novel and sustainable oxygen- and ozone based [bleaching technologies](#).

As Managing Director of Air Liquide in Belgium and Luxembourg (480 people), reduced working hours and rationalized operations, integrated BOC's activities acquired in 1999, and increased profits by more than 60% over a four year period.

2001-to-date: **Independent Consultant**

Market study on the potential of ozone-based pulp bleaching in North America.

Investigation of the potential risk of nickel allergy due to the handling of euro coins. This work, which concerns a controversial issue potentially affecting millions of people, has given rise to several scientific publications and significant press coverage, illustrated by the "Euro coins" page on www.aecono.com.

Teaching of a PhD course "Innovation and Private Enterprise" at the University of Trento, June 2004.

<http://www.science.unitn.it/labfm/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Govers.Govers>

Invited lectures and seminars at the Universities of Chemnitz (Germany), Leiden (the Netherlands), Trento (Italy), Leuven (Belgium), Orsay (France), FOM Institute for Plasma Physics (the Netherlands), University of Basel, Switzerland. Subjects: Nickel allergy; Hydrogen formation in interstellar space; Hydrogen as a potential energy carrier; Innovation in Enterprise.

Financial support and management advice with the aim of promoting sustainable innovation and dynamic entrepreneurship:

<http://www.allures-yachting.com/> ; <http://www.tenk.fr/>