

## FEATURE

# 8th EspeQBrasil and 17th RSAS Bring Together Researchers in São Pedro (SP)

The 8th Brazilian Meeting on Chemical Speciation (8th EspeQBrasil) and the 17th Rio Symposium on Atomic Spectrometry (17th RSAS), both biennial events, brought together experts in chemical speciation and atomic spectrometry to discuss recent scientific advances, technological innovation, and strengthened collaboration between academia and the private sector.



The 8th EspeQBrasil and the 17th RSAS were held jointly. Photo: Fabio Castro

The events took place jointly at the Hotel Fazenda Fonte Colina Verde in São Pedro (SP) from November 16 to 21, 2025. Well established in their respective fields, the two meetings are held biennially to bring together researchers, professionals, students, and industry representatives to share scientific advances, discuss contemporary challenges, and strengthen collaboration networks.

The last joint edition took place in 2023 in the city of Bento Gonçalves (RS), marking the resumption of in-person activities after the interruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic between 2020 and 2022.

### Tradition and Scientific Relevance

The RSAS was conceived in 1988 by Professors Adilson J. Curtius and Bernhard Welz with the aim of promoting interaction between Latin American students and scientists and internationally recognized researchers. Since then, the symposium has been held in Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, Mexico, and Chile, establishing itself as one of the leading forums in the field of atomic spectroscopy.

The event typically brings together approximately 300 to 350 participants, including internationally renowned researchers and representatives from leading companies in the analytical instrumentation sector.



EspeQBrasil and RSAS are recognized as important forums for scientific discussion in the field of Analytical Chemistry. Photo: Fabio Castro

EspeQBrasil was conceived by Professor Marco A. Z. Arruda in response to the growth of the field of chemical speciation and the need for a forum dedicated to disseminating advances related to the biological and environmental functions of chemical species. The meeting has been hosted in the states of Rio Grande do Sul, Bahia, Paraná, and São Paulo, consolidating itself as a strategic platform for scientific integration and the development of business opportunities.

### **EspeQBrasil Scientific Program**

During the 8th edition of EspeQBrasil, the session “Speciation and Fractionation in the Environment” stood out, featuring national and international lectures and oral presentations that fostered high-level technical discussions.

The event also included “Lightning Talk” sessions, allowing students and researchers to present their results in a dynamic format.

Other sessions addressed:

- Advances in analytical techniques and sample preparation for chemical speciation and fractionation
- Speciation and fractionation in nutrition and food sciences
- Emerging topics in chemical speciation and isotopic analysis

The final day was marked by in-depth discussions and interaction among researchers from different fields. Emerging topics included studies involving nanomaterials, microplastics, emerging contaminants, climate change, renewable energy applications, and the use of synchrotron light.

### **Opening Ceremony and Initial Activities of the 17th RSAS**

The opening ceremony of RSAS was marked by noteworthy institutional and scientific highlights. During the ceremony, three researchers and one representative from the private sector were honored for their scientific and institutional contributions. The event was also attended by representatives from São Paulo State University (Unesp) and the University of Campinas (Unicamp), reinforcing the commitment of academic institutions to the initiative.



Cultural presentation of *samba de gafieira*. Photo: Fabio Castro

The inaugural program included a cultural presentation of *samba de gafieira*, celebrating Brazilian art and diversity, followed by the opening lecture delivered by Dr. Ryszard Lobinski (CNRS, France), who reflected on the role of scientific research in an international context.



Discussion session on poster presentations. Photo: Fabio Castro

The scientific activities included keynote lectures, oral presentations, and poster sessions. One day was entirely devoted to X-ray, Raman, Mössbauer, Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry (SIMS), and synchrotron-based techniques, followed by discussions on multimodal approaches and methodological innovations.

### Scientific Integration and Institutional Opportunities

In addition to their academic relevance, the events provided a strategic environment for networking, strengthening institutional partnerships, and fostering closer ties with the private sector. The presence of sponsoring companies was considered essential to maintaining these spaces for scientific exchange and to exploring new business opportunities.



The events also received support from companies in the analytical sector. Photo: Fabio Castro

Among the participating companies were Agilent, Analítica, Analytik Jena, Anton Paar, Metrohm, PerkinElmer, SENS, Thermo Fisher Scientific, and Vert.

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