



European Research Training Network: **FULCE**

**"Functional Liquid Crystalline Elastomers"**

<http://www-ipcms.u-strasbg.fr/RTNfulce/>

### **Third Meeting**

**Ravenna (Italy) 19-21 February 2004**

**Participants from Barcelona, Bologna, Exeter, Freiburg, Ilmenau,  
Ljubljana and Strasbourg.**

#### **AIM**

The FULCE network groups together seven laboratories with complementary expertise (in Chemistry, Physics, Engineering) from six EU countries and is dedicated to the synthesis of liquid-crystalline elastomers and the study of some of their important properties, particularly in view of the realization of micro and nano actuators and of their potential in the development of artificial muscles. The Ravenna Meeting follows the ones held in Exeter (September 2002) and in Barcelona (May 2003). As for the previous meetings the teams will make presentations on their work and its progress. In particular, the young researchers employed by the network will illustrate their projects and their preliminary results. The discussions between the participants will try to assess the progresses made in the project and to improve the effectiveness of the work and of the collaboration.

#### **VENUE**

The network meeting will be held in Ravenna (75 km from Bologna), an historical town, which was capital of the Western Roman Empire for over two centuries and that is famous in the world for its unique Byzantine mosaics and Churches. The meeting will be based in the town center at some conference rooms of Bologna University.

The arrival of participants shall be on Thursday 19 February afternoon. The scientific meeting will start on Friday morning and will end on Saturday at lunch time.

Participants will be hosted at Hotel Bisanzio, a Best Western hotel, sited in Ravenna, (Via Salara 30, 48100 Ravenna, Tel. 39 054421711, Fax 39 0544 32539, [www.bisanziohotel.com](http://www.bisanziohotel.com)).

The lunches and dinners will be at various Restaurants (**see Programme**).

#### **COSTS**

The total cost (accommodation, lunch and dinners, coffee breaks, etc) is Euro 525. Payments can be made before the meeting date by bank transfer to the following