

# Fondo Gippi Cavallotti

## Biography

Professor Cavallotti had a long and brilliant career as researcher and innovator within surface technology that started with graduation in Industrial Chemical Engineering from Politecnico di Milano in 1963.

The research of professor Cavallotti covered a wide range of subjects related to surface technology. This included more fundamental subjects like kinetics of electrochemical deposition using the Normality-Inertia parameter, mechanism of electrocrystallisation, and mechanism of autocatalytic chemical deposition. It also included applied studies of electrodeposition of alloys, composites and multilayered coatings. Finally, professor Cavallotti also studied the history of electrochemistry, a subject with a strong Italian tradition, where professor Cavallotti himself is one of the contributors. Professor Cavallotti was an excellent teacher in electrochemistry to the benefit a countless number of under-graduate and graduate students, colleagues in the field, and industrial partners. Professor Cavallotti contributed frequently in spreading of knowledge about surface technology through teaching, supervision, conference talks, and also by acting as a bridge between academy and industry. From his permanent base at Politecnico di Milano Professor Cavallotti developed widespread international cooperation. He was a fellow of IMF, and he coordinated European research projects, organized international excellent conferences and meetings, and was active in many organizations. Among other international positions, he has been president of the Italian Association of Metal Finishing (AIFM), the International Union for Surface Finishing (IUSF), and the European Academy of Surface Technology (EAST).

Professor Cavallotti received many international recognitions and awards during his career, among them the Hothersall Medal from the Institute of Metal Finishing in 2009. As recently as in spring 2017 professor Cavallotti was awarded the International EAST Prize. It is a prize only given three times in the history of EAST and is based on excellent achievements in the field of surface technology. The highlights of the career of professor Cavallotti are many. One of particular importance to the European Academy of Surface Technology was the initiative to create the European Marie Curie programme on Micro and Nano Deposition (MINDE). It was running 2005-08 and created a strong cross-border network to and between a new generation of scientists in surface technology all over Europe. Many of the participants in MINDE have become the backbone of a new generation of senior scientists and research leaders in surface technology. This concept has inspired to the ongoing European COST action entitled Electrochemical Processing Methodologies and Corrosion Protection for Device and Systems Miniaturization (e-MINDS), which again are preparing a new generation of scientists.

Even though professor Cavallotti nominally retired from a long career at Politecnico di Milano in 2010, he continued to be active as professor emeritus. His last project was the development of a new functional coating on frying pans - a product that merged his deep passion for both surface technology and Italian cuisine.

**By colleagues and friends in the surface technology society, he will always be remembered as an excellent scientist and innovator, a mentor that cared for the young scientists and a good friend.**