## **CHEMISTRY**& INDUSTRY

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## EXGLU DU PRATA



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#### Looking good after the facelift

Dede Williams talks to Degussa's new chairman about his plans for taking the company into the 21st century.

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Computer chips buried inside automated systems threaten to disrupt industrial processes as 1999 turns into 2000. Graham Lawton reports.

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#### Cancer clusters and their origins

They can cause extreme public concern and also provide useful information, but just how significant are localised occurrences of cancer? Ravi Maheswaran and Anthony Staines of Imperial College explain.

#### 258 The inhibition of matrix metalloproteinase enzymes

A new approach to treating cancer which involves inhibiting enzymes that degrade the tissue surrounding cells is showing a lot of promise, as Alan Davidson, Alan Drummond, Alan Galloway and Mark Whittaker of British Biotech Pharmaceuticals reveal.

#### 262 Polymer therapeutics for tumour specific delivery

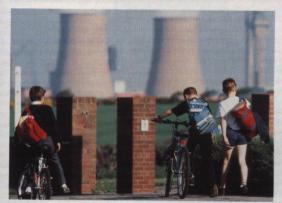
Getting the right amount of drug to a tumour without poisoning surrounding tissue is no mean feat. Ruth Duncan of the School of Pharmacy in London looks at polymer-based drugs which could make this process easier.

#### 266 Vaccination against cancer

Inciting the body to fight back against cancer seems the ideal way to combat the disease, but finding vaccines to set the wheels in motion has been a slow process. Catherine King and Freda Stevenson of Southampton University discuss the current state of play.



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