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November 2017

Newsflash

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Dear Sir or Madam

Welcome to our November Newsflash of the Innovation Society,
St.Gallen with the following News:

- The hidden world of nanotechnology in plants
- Cheaper, more flexible and eco-friendly smartphone screens with graphene
- Graphene water filter turns whisky clear
- Foundation sponsors 60 nano-experimental kits for schools in eastern Switzerland

Enjoy the reading and kind regards,

Christoph Meili
The Innovation Society, St. Gallen

The hidden world of nanotechnology in plants



Flowers have a secret signal that's specially tailored for bees so they know where to collect nectar. And new research has just given us a greater insight into how this signal works. Nanoscale patterns on the petals reflect light in a way that effectively creates a "blue halo" around the flower that helps attract the bees and encourages pollination.

[Read article](#)

Cheaper, more flexible and eco-friendly smartphone screens with graphene



Scientists at the University of Sussex may have found a solution to the long-standing problem of brittle smart phone screens. Professor Alan Dalton and his team have developed a new way to make smart phone touch screens that are cheaper, less brittle, and more environmentally friendly. On top of that, the new approach also promises devices that use less energy, are more responsive, and do not tarnish in the air.

[Read article](#)

Graphene water filter turns whisky clear



Previously graphene-oxide membranes were shown to be completely impermeable to all solvents except for water. However, a study published in Nature Materials, now shows that we can tailor the molecules that pass through these membranes by simply making them ultrathin.

[Read article](#)

Foundation sponsors 60 nano-experimental kits for schools in eastern Switzerland



The new “SimplyNano 2” nano-experimental kit will be available

from this year on also in secondary and upper-secondary schools in the cantons of Appenzell, St. Gallen and Thurgau. This is thanks to the Metrohm foundation Herisau, which has sponsored 60 nano-experimental kits for 15 schools in eastern Switzerland. On November 8, the new teaching material has been presented to some first teachers at Empa St. Gallen and given away for their use.

[Read article \(in German\)](#)

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