# From Crisis to Clarity

## 1983

### The Fight Against HIV/AIDS

In the midst of a growing global health crisis, AZT becomes the first approved drug for the treatment of HIV/AIDS.

For patients, it's a lifeline.
For science, a turning point in antiviral therapy.

1996

1973

## 1991

### Chemistry, Seen Differently

Swiss Chemist Richard Ernst wins the Nobel Prize for transforming magnetic resonance into a tool of astonishing precision — allowing scientists to «see» molecules in motion.

His work reshapes research in chemistry, biology, and medicine.

Richard R. Ernst (ca. 1986). Foto: ETH-Bibliothek Zürich (Bildarchiv), «Wikimedia Commons», CC BY-SA 4.0.

## 2002

Kurt Wüthrich (2022, Scripps). Foto: J. Craig Venter Institute, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons.

### Nobel Gold and a Split-Stage Fair

Kurt Wüthrich is awarded the Nobel Prize for decoding how proteins behave at the atomic level — a leap for structural biology.

That same year, under Robert Appel's direction, Ilmac divides into two distinct arenas: **r+d** for life sciences and **Reach** for process solutions. Nearly 600 exhibitors, one unified ambition.

## 2004

### Biology Meets Precision

The Nobel Prize goes to the scientists who cracked how cells break down proteins — a mechanism now central to cancer research and molecular medicine.

## 2005

### A New Look

Ilmac launches a bold new visual identity.

With 450 exhibitors, the fair stays fresh, focused, and future-facing.

# New Formats, New Frontiers

# Reinventing the Platform

### Science Joins Forces

Ilmac teams up with MipTec, BioValley, and the Swiss Chemical Society to create Basel Life Sciences Week — aligning discovery, research, and application under one banner.

## 2010

### Manufacturing Gets Smarter

A quiet revolution reshapes Swiss industry.

From IoT to automation, Industry 4.0 transforms production — with Switzerland at the forefront of digital manufacturing and smart factories.

## 2010s