

## Supramolecular transition metal catalysis: enzyme mimics and beyond

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Joost Reek finished his masters at the University of Nijmegen in 1991 and received his PhD in 1996 at the same university. His research was done in the group of Prof. R.J.M. Nolte, where he acquired expertise in the field of supramolecular chemistry and synthesis. He attended the group of Prof. M.J. Crossley in Sydney as a postdoctoral fellow in 1996, where he got experienced in porphyrin chemistry and dendrimers. In a collaboration with Prof K. Ghiggino he studied the photophysical properties of porphyrin functionalized dendrimers that served as models for the light harvesting II system.

In January 1998 he became lecturer (senior lecturer in 2003) in the group of Prof. Van Leeuwen where he got experienced with transition metal catalysis. Collaborative research activities with van Leeuwen focused on transition metal catalysis, catalyst immobilization and dendritic transition metal catalysis. In this period he started his own successful new line of research on the border transition metal catalysis and supramolecular chemistry, which has resulted in several patents, many papers in high impact journals and an appointment as full professor (chair supramolecular catalysis) at the University of Amsterdam in 2006. In addition, in 2006 he founded a company, Cat-fix, to commercialize some of the invention in the area of supramolecular catalysis, and InCatT (innovative catalyst technologies) has been launched as a second spin-off company in 2009. In 2005 he was elected a young member of royal Dutch academy of sciences (KNAW). As a young member of the KNAW he is active in visiting high schools, organizing meetings on interdisciplinary research topics and he is taking part in the committee judging the KNAW recognized research schools in the area of natural sciences.