

## Simona Galli

**Simona Galli** was born in Milan, Italy, in 1974. After a degree in Chemistry from the University of Milan (1998), and a two-months grant from Montell S.p.A., she obtained a PhD in Chemical Sciences in Milan (2001), under the supervision of Professor Angelo Sironi, on the project 'Structural Aspects of Organic, Inorganic and Organometallic Compounds Possessing Non Linear Optical Properties'. She carried out her post-doctoral research activity on 'Structural Studies of Transition Metals Compounds by means of Powder Diffraction' within the group of Professor Norberto Masciocchi, at the University of Insubria in Como, Italy, (2001-2005). Since 2005, she holds a permanent position as a researcher at the Dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche e Ambientali, University of Insubria.



By means of conventional studies from single crystals, the initial work of Simona Galli has been committed with the structural aspects of coordination compounds with aza heteroaromatic ligands, possessing solid state, second order non linear optical (NLO) properties, aiming to draw correlations between NLO and structural properties. Recently, she has widened her interests to include structural determination techniques from X-ray powder diffraction (XRPD) data acquired uniquely from *conventional laboratory* sources. Among her outcomings in this field, some thirty chemically and thermally stable coordination polymers with aza heteroaromatic ligands, possessing functional properties such as magnetism, second order NLO, molecular recognition, reversible adsorption. The latter aspect, basic for gas storage and separation, led, in 2006, to the deposition of a patent. She also performs *in situ* thermodiffraction to characterise sorption-desorption or phase transition processes of the studied species.

The Italian Association of Crystallography has awarded the 'Mario Nardelli' Prize 2007 to Simona Galli with the motivation:

***For the innovative applications, witnessed by a large number of high-level publications, based on different diffractometric techniques to design new inorganic materials of interest for theoretical and applied sciences.***