



Volume 35
Issue 1
January 2009
Pages 1-64

Published since 1978
formerly as Archives of Materials Science
or Archiwum Nauki o Materiałach (in Polish)

Archives of Materials Science and Engineering



Editor-in-Chief Prof. Leszek A. Dobrzański

International Scientific Journal published monthly
by the World Academy of Materials
and Manufacturing Engineering

<http://www.archivesmse.org>



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Section of Metallic
Materials



Institute of Engineering
Materials and
Biomaterials of Silesian
University of Technology,
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Financial support

In 2009 the publication of the Journal is financially supported by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education in Poland.

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The procedure of its registration in the databases of Scopus, Scirus, Compendex, CiteSeer, GetCited and Web of science has begun.

Journal Registration

The Journal is registered by the 1st Civil Department of the District Court in Gliwice, Poland at number 278.

Publisher



INTERNATIONAL
OCSCO
WORLD PRESS

International OCSCO World Press
ul. S. Konarskiego 18a/366,
44-100 Gliwice, Poland

e-mail: info@archivesmse.org

Bank account: Stowarzyszenie Komputerowej Nauki o Materiałach i Inżynierii Powierzchni
Bank name: ING Bank Śląski
Bank address: ul. Zwycięstwa 28, 44-100 Gliwice, Poland
Account number/IBAN CODE:
PL7610501298100002300809767
Swift code: INGBPLPW

Gliwice – Sao Paulo – Athens – Osaka – Doha – West Lafayette – Auckland – Szczecin – Singapore

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Printed in Poland.

It was said...



JOSÉ MANUEL BARROSO

The European Commission President

(...) It is a pleasure to pay homage to the key protagonist of a chapter of history that changed the face of Europe forever.

Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Lech Walesa here in Gdansk recalls that unique combination of an individual destiny and a collective adventure that distinguishes major historical events. Solidarnosc's rightly became a worldwide symbol of freedom and resistance to oppression. Struggling here in Gdansk for the values of democracy, freedom and solidarity, the Polish people once again took on the mantle of defenders of Europe's cultural, religious and humanist heritage. I like to take this opportunity to pay a tribute to the Pope John-Paul II for his great contribution of the cause for Europe.

You, Lech Walesa, stand before us today as the very embodiment of this struggle. In your 1983 Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, read by your wife Danuta, you said: "We desire peace – and that is why we have never resorted to physical force. We crave for justice – and that is why we are so persistent in the struggle for our rights. We seek freedom of convictions – and that is why we have never attempted to enslave man's conscience nor shall we ever attempt to do so". Peace, justice and freedom: three pillars of the community of shared values, under the rule of law, which today constitutes the European Union. But there is also a fourth pillar: solidarity. Lech Walesa, I see your invitation today as recognition that Europe stands for solidarity. Firstly, a solidarity within Europe, between our countries and regions. Structural funds, for example, represent a major redistribution from the richer to the poorer parts of Europe, and we are developing solidarity around the theme of energy security as another example. Secondly, a solidarity with European citizens, which will become more important in these troubled economic times. We express this solidarity via the social funds and the new globalisation adjustment fund-helping workers and the most vulnerable in society. Thirdly, solidarity between generations. Climate change is perhaps the most important long term challenge we face and we must preserve this planet for our children and future generations to enjoy. But finally, we must also never forget Europe's solidarity with the rest of the world. In the forum of development and the fight against poverty, hunger, disease. We must not use the financial crisis to postpone solidarity with the poorest people on the planet. Approval of the €1 billion food facility is a good sign. Achievement of the millennium development goals would be better. Do we need more solidarity? Of course we do. Because of interdependence, because of globalisation. Once again the financial crisis makes this clear. What can any of us achieve alone, at a purely national level, in the face of the challenges of globalisation? Now, more than ever, Europe needs the strongest links of solidarity. (...) Lech Walesa and Solidarnosc's hugely ambitious strategy brought a whole new world. In these critical times, the European Union can draw inspiration from this, and take action against today's challenges with renewed energy. As the world once again stands on the brink of radical change, it is more necessary than ever to reaffirm the value of solidarity that will build our common future.

Peace, justice, freedom and solidarity: the four pillars of Europe.

The speech "Solidarity for the future" on 6th December 2008 in Gdansk, in the conference on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Peace Nobel for Lech Walesa
Photo from Reuters Pictures

Editorial

The World Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering carries out the close cooperation with many scientific centres in various continents and numerous international organisations. Among almost ten such important scientific events sponsored in 2008 there is Advances in Materials and Processing Technologies (AMPT) – the International Conference, which took place in Manama, the Kingdom of Bahrain on 2nd-5th November 2008 at Gulf International Convention Centre, Gulf Hotel under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Abdul – Hussein Bin Ali Mirza, the Minister for Oil and Gas affairs and the Chairman of National Oil and Gas Authority of the Kingdom of Bahrain. Advances in Materials and Processing Technologies (AMPT) conference series was founded in 1993 at the Dublin City University, Dublin, Ireland and held there in 1993, 1995, 1999 and 2003. Moreover, it has taken place so far in Portugal in 1997, Malaysia in 1998, Spain in 2001, Poland in 2005, USA in 2006, and South Korea in 2007. The next conference will be organised in 2010 in Bangkok in Thailand. The initiator and the honorary chairman of the International Steering Committee of the AMPT International Conference Series is Prof. M.S.J. Hashmi from the Dublin City University in Dublin, Ireland. These conferences provide a chance for academics, researchers, and engineers to meet and exchange innovative ideas and information on all aspects of materials processing technologies. In AMPT 2008 Conference the WAMME Fellows participated in great numbers. The Conference Chair was Prof. B.S. Yilbas, the WAMME Fellow from King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In the makeup of the International Steering Committee of the AMPT International Conference Series among others the following WAMME Fellows: Prof. L.A. Dobrzanski, Poland, Prof. J.S. Gunasekera, United States, Prof. Y.T. Im, Korea, Prof. S. Sulaiman, Malaysia, Prof. J.M. Torralba, Spain, Prof. F.W. Travis, United Kingdom and Prof. B.S. Yilbas, Saudi Arabia are included. Four WAMME Fellows, that is: Prof. L.A. Dobrzanski, Poland, Prof. E. Bayraktar, France, Prof. H. Hocheng, Taiwan and Prof. A.M.S. Hamouda, Qatar were invited to give invited lectures. In 2008 Prof. B.S. Yilbas WAMME Fellow was honoured with an honourable W. Johnson gold medal award for recognition and appreciation of his distinguished academic achievements. Among laureates of the gold AMPT medals for a most distinguished academic in materials and processing research and teaching were the following WAMME Fellows: Prof. F.W. Travis, UK (1997), Prof. L.A. Dobrzanski, Poland (2003), Prof. S.K. Ghosh, UK (2005), Prof. Y.T. Im, South Korea (2007) and Prof. B.S. Yilbas (2008).

Among many academic centres the cooperation with scientists from the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane and the Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne in Australia and the organisation of the Global Congresses on Manufacturing and Management, directed by the President – Professor P.K.D.V. Yarlagadda, a Fellow of WAMME from Australia, for last two years takes a prominent place. The 9th Global Congress on Manufacturing and Management took place on 12th-14th November 2008 in Holiday Inn Hotel in Gold Coast, Australia. In the Congress in spite of the President of the GCMM Organisation Professor P.K.D.V. Yarlagadda, a Fellow of WAMME from Australia and me personally, other WAMME Fellows such as: Prof. Y.T. Im from Korea, Prof. J. Kopac from Slovenia and Prof. G. Batalha from Brazil (who in fact did not arrive but published a paper) took part. All the mentioned Professors after the last byelection are included in the makeup of the Board of the GCMM organisation. The Technical Sessions of the 9th



Global Congress M&M were divided into various themes. The Congress was offered flexibility to the contributors to add new themes of wider interests. Ca. 100 papers on the following themes and related fields were qualified after the careful selection to the Conference Programme.

We pass on to P.T. Readers the next, but the first in 2009, Issue of AMSE. It is of course the super occasion to sum up the achievements it has had so far. The World Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering by the use of its publishing agenda – the International OCSCO World Press and the cooperation with the Association of Computational Materials Science and Surface Engineering, and the Metallic Materials Section of the Materials Science Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences has been publishing the given AMSE for last two years.

I would like to thank P.T. Authors, Deputies of Editor-in-chief, members of the Editorial Board, associated Editors and all the persons who contributed to the publication of the AMSE for their efforts. It is necessary to mention that the AMSE is cited in the Internet databases: Google Scholars and Ulrich's Periodical Directory and in order to disseminate it, the procedure of its registration in the databases of Scopus, Scricus, Compandex, CiteSeer, GetCited and Web of science has begun.

I wish P.T. Readers a successful reading and thank P.T. Authors for their content-related output and at the same time hoping that in 2009 our AMSE will be not less successful than last year.

Prof. Leszek A. Dobrzanski, M. Dr H.C
Editor-in-Chief of the AMSE
President of the WAMME
President of the ACMSSSE

Gliwice, in December 2008