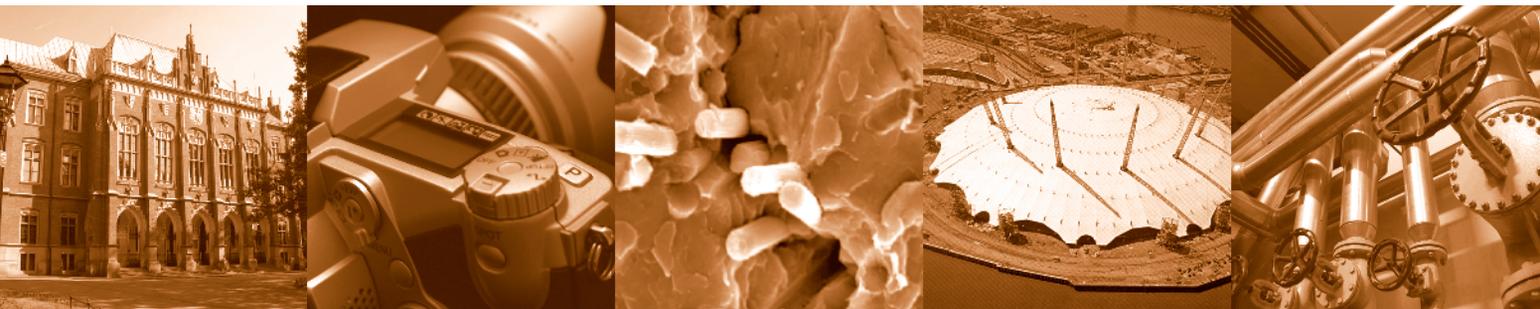




Volume 41  
Issue 1  
January 2010  
Pages 1-64

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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## Financial support

The efforts to achieve the financial support of the Journal in 2010 from the Ministry of Science and Higher Education in Poland have begun.

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## Journal Registration

The Journal is registered by the 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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:  
PL76105012981000002300809767  
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 LUIS RODRÍGUEZ ZAPATERO

### The Prime Minister of Spain

(...) Europe will only be strong when all its citizens are strong and when European citizens are seen to be strong, which requires new steps to develop and to make the rights of European citizens a reality. So, these are the four main priorities of our Presidency:

The first and essential priority for the development of the others is the full and effective application of the Lisbon Treaty. The second is to guarantee the economic recovery of Europe through greater co-ordination of every member state and the approval of the European strategy for sustainable growth for 2020. The third is to reinforce the presence and influence of the European Union in the new world order. Finally, the fourth is to place European citizens at the centre of EU policy, with initiatives designed to develop their rights and freedoms. (...) We are also convinced of the need to continue the reforms that will enable us to successfully face the pending challenges still to come, in order to accelerate recovery and achieve vigorous growth which generates employment.

The first challenge is globalisation itself. The advanced economies, and particularly the European economy, are facing intense competition from the emerging economies, in the area of costs. Europe's response to this should be to improve its capacity to innovate. Therefore, Spain's Presidency will promote the adoption of an ambitious European Innovation Plan that will cover the different aspects of innovation -regulatory, financial, educational and, of course, the reinforcement of specific policies to support R&D. The second challenge is climate change: a phenomenon that we can not ignore. Europe is taking the lead in the international arena and has already assumed commitments for emission reductions and the use of renewable energies. We need to take advantage of this transition to a low carbon economy to generate new jobs and additional sources of economic growth. (...) We will encourage different industrial and technological initiatives to consolidate Europe's leadership as a 'green economy'. The third challenge is to reinforce our social model in the areas of population ageing and the impact of the crisis, which has been especially noticeable in the labour market (...).The Spanish Presidency will promote initiatives to adapt workers skills to the demands of the labour market and improve educational quality, university excellence and continuous training. The response to these three challenges – economic, environmental and social – will be drawn up within the framework of a common strategy for the transformation of the European Union by 2020. The New Growth and Employment Strategy, to be approved during the Spanish Presidency, will deal with a limited number of quantitative goals and will establish a shared vision of the European Union's situation from a perspective of productive, environmental and social sustainability. Finally, the New Strategy should establish a dynamic and operational governance with the participation of all social representatives. All the European institutions need to feel they are active partners in the new strategy and we need to be able to implement a system to survey the results obtained by the governments of the different Member States and the Commission.(...)

From the Appearance of the Spanish Prime Minister before the Plenary Session of the Congress of Deputies to explain the conclusions of the European Council and to outline the priorities of the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the first six months of 2010; Congress of Deputies, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009, Madrid, Spain

# Editorial

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In few weeks time we will enter the New Year 2010. It will be the 6<sup>th</sup> year of activity of the World Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering and at the same time the 6<sup>th</sup> year of issuing the Journal of Achievements in Materials and Manufacturing Engineering, also the 5<sup>th</sup> year of issuing the Archives of Materials Science and Engineering. As every new year, this one also brings new hopes and chances. And because of that we are sending our best wishes to individuals as well as to various institutions. We are also receiving more and more seasonal wishes including new year wishes, for which I hereby give my most sincere thanks. I wish the eminent Fellows of WAMME Academy, members of International Editorial Board and Deputies Editor-in-Chief, co-workers and sympathizers of the Journal, but most of all the PT Authors and the Readers all the best, success and good wealth in upcoming New Year of 2010.

For many people all over the world the year 2010 will be a special one, because already on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2010 the 21<sup>st</sup> Olympic Winter Games, which official host city will be Vancouver, BC in Canada, will begin. That is why on the cover of the given Issue of the Journal we demonstrate a few pictures, but from sunny, summer, not winter Vancouver, made relatively not long ago during one of many scientific conferences which took place every year in that beautiful city. The 2010 Winter Olympics for 16 days will attract attention of people all over the World. Those Olympics will be the third ones hosted by Canada. The Canadian Olympic Association chose Vancouver as the Canadian candidate city over Calgary and Quebec City. On the first round of voting on 21<sup>st</sup> November 1998, Vancouver-Whistler had 26 votes and on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1998, in the second and final round of voting Vancouver win with 40 votes. Vancouver won the bidding process to host the Olympics by a vote of the International Olympic Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 in Prague, Czech Republic. Vancouver faced two other finalists: Pyeongchang, South Korea, and Salzburg, Austria.

The 2010 Olympic Winter Games will be one of the biggest ones in the history of international multi-sport event which will be hosted in Vancouver, with some events which will take place in the suburbs of Richmond, West Vancouver and the University Endowment Lands, and in the resort town of Whistler. Some venues, including the Richmond Olympic Oval, will be at sea level, a rarity for the Winter Games. The 2010 Games will be also the first – Winter or Summer – which will have an Opening Ceremony held indoors. The opening and closing ceremonies will be held at BC Place Stadium. Competition venues in Greater Vancouver included the Pacific Coliseum, the Vancouver Olympic/Paralympic Centre, the UBC Winter Sports Centre, the Richmond Olympic Oval and Cypress Mountain. GM Place, home of the NHL's Vancouver Canucks, renamed Canada Hockey Place for the duration of the Games, played host to ice hockey events. Competition venues in Whistler included the Whistler Blackcomb ski resort, the Whistler Olympic Park and the Whistler Sliding Centre.

The 2010 Winter Olympics logo will be a statue of Ilanaaq the Inunnguaq. Ilanaaq is the Inuktitut word for friend. The logo was based on the Inukshuk (stone landmark or cairn) built for the Northwest Territories Pavilion at Expo 86 and donated to the City of Vancouver after the event. It is now used as a landmark on English Bay Beach. The mascots for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games were introduced on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2007. Inspired by traditional First Nations creatures, the mascots include Miga – a mythical sea bear, part orca and part kermode bear and Quatchi – a sasquatch, who wears boots and earmuffs. The Royal Canadian Mint planned the production of a series of commemorative coins celebrating the 2010 Games.



It is foreseen that over 80 nations and ca. 2600 athletes will participate in this Olympic Winter Games. The number of events will exceed surely 85 in fifteen winter sports events. The eight sports categorised as ice sports were: bobsled, luge, skeleton, ice hockey, figure skating, speed skating, short track speed skating and curling. The three sports categorised as alpine skiing and snowboarding events were: alpine, freestyle and snowboarding. The four sports categorised as Nordic events were: biathlon, cross-country skiing, ski jumping and Nordic combined. The opening and closing ceremonies and the events categorised as ice sports (excluding bobsleigh, luge and skeleton) will be held in Vancouver and Richmond. The sports categorised as "Nordic events" will be held in the Callaghan Valley located just to the west of Whistler. All alpine skiing events will be held on Whistler Mountain (Creekside) and sliding events (bobsleigh, luge and skeleton) will be held on Blackcomb Mountain. Cypress Mountain (located in Cypress Provincial Park in West Vancouver) will be hosted the freestyle skiing (aerials, moguls and ski cross), and all snowboard events (half-pipe, parallel giant slalom, snowboard cross).

Of course to the material and manufacturing engineer's mind's eye sees that the competitions of athletes, who will compete for honourable Olympic medals in a noble fight, are accompanied by many-year efforts of many designers and manufacturers in order to provide athletes with as good equipment and devices as possible, assuring the best sports effect. This is great worldwide business, which innovational level keeping pace with space industry and others most avant-garde fields of technology. It is no wonder then that scientific and technological world follows sports competitions, not only because of sports excitement of followers, but also because of vivid professional and scientific interests. Our Journal always with the greatest interest publishes scientific papers concerning materials and technologies designed for equipment and devices used in sports, aware that in time those materials as well as technologies will get to recreation and soon after that to everyday use. Thus we encourage PT Authors to widen interest in this subject.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Dobrzanski'.

Prof. Leszek A. Dobrzanski M Dr hc  
Editor-in-Chief of the AMSE  
President of the WAMME  
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