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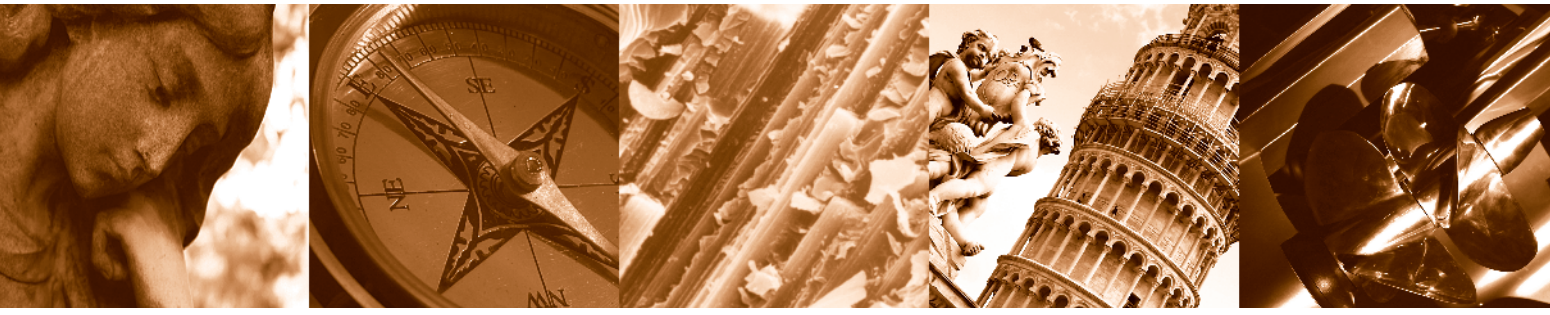

Editor-in-Chief Prof. Leszek A. Dobrzański

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by the World Academy of Materials
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It was said...

RITA FORST

Executive director, product engineer, GM Europe, Turin, Italy
Winner of the 2008 Automotive News Europe 25 Leading Women Award

"It is still uncommon to have a female engineer in a man's world. It will take years before we see an equal number, if at all. It might never be equal numbers. Interest needs to be created early. It starts at home when parents give their daughter a doll and then say to he their son, "Let's go in the car." Also, in some countries there is still an understanding that if a woman has children she will spend a few years with her children and family. This is very difficult for a female engineer because technology advances. If you are away for a few years it is tough to get back in again. Female engineers normally do not have a career plan, but in order to have a career you need to have a plan. Although it changed all the time, I had a plan. When I started I just wanted to have fun. Then I reached a point when I knew I was as good as my male colleagues so I thought, Why shouldn't I think about a career?"

In Automotive News Europe on 12th May 2008

Editorial

The International GENNESYS Congress on Nanotechnology and Research Infrastructures, chaired by Prof. Jordi Marquet – a Director of UAB Research Park, Spain in co-operation with Prof. Helmut Dosch-Director Max-Planck Institut für Metallforschung in Stuttgart, Germany, was held in Barcelona, Spain on 26th-28th May 2010 under the auspices of the Ministry of Research and Innovation of Spain, during the Spanish EU-Presidency. The congress brought together renowned experts and key decision and policy makers to highlight and discuss the major conclusions and recommendations of the GENNESYS foresight project. In autumn 2002, a high level group composed of nanoscientists and experts from the synchrotron radiation and neutron facilities met in Grenoble to discuss the future role of the synchrotron radiation and neutron facilities for the development of nanomaterials and nanotechnology in Europe. There it was decided to launch a new European initiative named GENNESYS – Grand European Initiative on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology using Neutron and Synchrotron Radiation Sources, in order to bring these rapidly developing communities together. At a European kick-off meeting in November 2004 in Stuttgart, the overall strategy for the GENNESYS enterprise was formulated and approved. A primary mandate of the GENNESYS initiative has been the collection of the relevant information from European and worldwide research laboratories about the future trends and needs in advanced analysis for the development of nanomaterials and nanotechnology. Recognised scientists and technologists familiar with these topics have been asked to contribute to this exercise. The entire European research community (universities, research institutes, funding agencies, and private company laboratories, as well as policymakers representing individual countries, and the European Community), is actively integrated into this unique European project. The European GENNESYS project has provided a European and worldwide vision for future strategies in nanoscience and nanotechnology in order to master the grand challenges of our society. Together with more than 600 authors from universities, research laboratories and industry GENNESYS has composed detailed research and technology roadmaps devising a new strategic role for the existing and emerging research infrastructures which are mandatory, should we overcome the key barriers in the development of advanced nanomaterials for better technologies. Prof. Helmut Dosch – a Chair of the GENNESYS Initiative wrote in Preface to the GENNESYS White Paper as the final results of the GENNESYS foresight project: "I am convinced this document will have a profound and sustainable impact on the development of nanotechnology in Europe." And in the next fragments of his speech it can be read: "The GENNESYS White Paper has produced new insight into the problems of nanomaterials development and has arrived at conclusions and recommendations about what must be done to advance this important field in Europe. A further task of the GENNESYS initiative has been: to assess the state of the art of nanomaterials science and technology; to highlight and prioritise future challenges and research needs, and set out a suitable time frame for addressing them; to pinpoint the areas of research in nanoscience and nanotechnology that will most benefit from joint research strategies with synchrotron radiation and neutron sources; to review and forecast the effects which increased use by nanomaterials scientists will have on large-scale facilities; to formulate a European research programme for "nanomaterials science and technology exploiting the analytical potential of existing and emerging European synchrotron radiation and neutron facilities." The cited GENNESYS White Paper worked out and edited by Prof. Helmut Bosch and Prof. Marcel H. Van de Voorde is an unusual work which should be recommended for reading to all who deal with different aspects of materials science and engineering. The International GENNESYS Congress on Nanotechnology and Research Infrastructures also made key recommendations how to structure and organise nanomaterials development in Europe and to promote a new culture in the world of nanomaterials in which research-discoveries will smoothly be transferred into industrial innovations by human-resource networks around modern research infrastructure platforms. Topics and speakers of the Congress were carefully selected by the Scientific and Industrial Advisory Board and by the International GENNESYS Council. Each topic was strategically discussed in a panel of worldwide scientific and political representatives. The posters sessions and industrial exhibition at GENNESYS Congress turned the Congress into the "meeting point" for worldwide research institutes, universities, companies and research infrastructures who work in the fields of nanoscience and nanotechnology. The Congress provided an excellent platform to present institutions and organizations in front of an international audience and get in contact with other members of this community.

This most avant-garde research subject matter is certainly of interest to many PT Authors and PT Readers of our AMSE journals. Therefore I encourage the authors to submit their next works, which we will satisfy to publish in our journal. Delivering a next issue of AMSE to PT Readers we wish a nice reading.

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