

Preface

This issue of *Catalysis Today* is partly devoted to contributions presented during the symposium dealing with *New Catalytic Materials for New or Improved Processes* at the 5th European Congress on Catalysis (EuropaCat-5) at Limerick (Ireland) in September 2001.

Establishing a more sustainable development by discovering new catalysts and new processes with improved performances is nowadays one of the driving forces of modern catalysis. Research has therefore to be focused on the simultaneous development of both new active phases and new catalyst supports, and parallelly on the necessary understanding of reaction steps at the molecular level; consequently, the search for new materials is of high necessity in order to reach these targets.

This issue contains six selected papers covering a large range of topics and looking for new materials with tailorable and designed properties:

- Synthesis, characterization and uses of nanostructures (carbon and carbide) by Niesz et al., J.M. Nhut et al. and M.L. Toebes et al.

- Hydrotalcite materials for combustion catalysis by K. Jiratova et al.
- A novel *ex*-framework FeZSM-5 for environmental purpose by J. Perez-Ramirez et al.
- Ni-based catalysts for the biomass valorisation by C. Courson et al.

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