



## ICHMT The International Centre for Heat and Mass Transfer

ICHMT is an international, professional, non-governmental, non-profit organization established in 1968. The general objective of the Centre is to pursue excellence and foster the international exchange of science and engineering in all branches of heat and mass transfer through symposia, publications, promotion of research, and exchange of personnel for the benefit of people everywhere. With this mission in mind, ICHMT provides a unique apolitical forum for the world's leading heat and mass transfer scientists and engineers. ICHMT has 40 institutional members from 29 different countries. The ICHMT's home page on the Internet <http://www.ichmt.org>, which has now grown to an appreciable size, is being constantly updated, and accessed by scientists all over the world every day.

The traditional activity of ICHMT is organization of international symposia and seminars. These meetings have always met with increasing interest of the scientific, technical and industrial communities since the first meeting held in Yugoslavia on September 1968. Since then, the Centre organized highly successful meetings usually twice a year, every year, and sponsored several others. These meetings have served as a means of conveying and transferring scientific knowledge, technical know-how, and cultural values.

The general scope of the meetings has always been designed with the aim of active promotion of interesting scientific work and achievements at high technical levels. International participation in the meetings is always a major aim. The total number of participants in the meetings of

ICHMT since 1968 is over 4000 with attendees coming from over 60 different countries.

ICHMT publishes several Proceedings on various specific aspects of heat and mass transfer. Each proceeding is related to a meeting of the Centre. ICHMT's many publications have become among the most sought after collections of scientific literature in the field. The Web site, <http://www.ichmt.org>, has all these and other information on the Centre and its activities.

The symposium on "Transient Convective Heat and Mass Transfer in Single and Two-Phase Flows" held in Cesme, Turkey on 17–22 August 2003, which is the second meeting organized on the same subject in recent years, and from which selected papers have been collected in this special issue, is a very good example of a typical ICHMT activity. We hope that this publication meets all the objectives mentioned above. We look forward to having the continued interest of the scientists and researchers as it has been the major driving force and motivation behind the existence and well-being of the Centre.

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Available online 24 June 2004