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Journal of Alloys and Compounds 300–301 (2000) 1

Journal of
ALLOYS
AND COMPOUNDS

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Preface

The Winter Workshop on Spectroscopy and Structure of Rare Earth Systems has been organised by Faculty of Chemistry, University of Wrocław, Institute for Low Temperatures and Structure Research, PAN Wrocław and Institute of Inorganic Chemistry and Metallurgy of Rare Elements and Institute of Physics, Technical University of Wrocław. It was held in Szklarska Poręba, April 27–May 1 1999 year. It was continuation of a series of meetings held respectively six years and three years ago in Karpacz (1993) and Polanica-Zdrój, Poland (1996). The main object of the Workshop was the presentation of the latest achievements in spectroscopy and structure of novel Rare Earth systems as well as their technological applications in optoelectronics, laser technology, luminophores and others.

The aim of the workshop was both to give opportunities to chemists and physicists interested in this exciting field to interact and to bring together outstanding specialists with the necessary scientific background.

The workshop was attended by over a hundred scientists representing Belarus, Brazil, Czech Republic, France, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, USA, Russia, Ukraine. The plenary lectures and oral presentations (49) and posters (86) have provided a broad view of what is new in the spectroscopy and structure of Rare Earth systems. The excellent mixture of theory and experimental methods made this workshop a stimulating one.

The warmest acknowledgement is expressed to all participants, to the authors by their valuable and interesting papers and discussion as well as by their friendliness have greatly contributed to the success of the RES2 workshop.

The organisers acknowledge financial support from the University of Wrocław; Institute for Low Temperature and Structure Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences; State Committee of Scientific Research (KBN); European Research Office (London, U.K.); Józef Mianowski Foundation; Committee of Chemistry of PAN (Polish Academy of Sciences); Committee of Physics of PAN; Polish Physical Society; Institute of Physics of the Technical University of Wrocław; Uni-Export Instruments Ltd. (U.K.); Eurotek-International (Warsaw); City Heat Plant, Wrocław; Fermentation Plant “AKWAWIT” Leszno.

We take the opportunity to thank the international and local organising committees, the chairmen of the sessions and all the referees who accepted to spend many time for our community. Our gratitude is also expressed to the scientific secretary Dr. Hab. J. Gliński and to Dr. J. Sokolnicki for their enthusiasm and their efficiency.

Guest Editors
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