

## Introduction to the Special Section 2008 European Conference on Thermophysical Properties

The 18th European Conference on Thermophysical Properties (ECTP) was held at the University of Pau ("Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour", France) between August 31 and September 4, 2008. This was the 18th of a well-established series of conferences generally concerned with thermophysical properties that have been held in Europe approximately every three years since 1968 (when it was at Baden-Baden, Germany). Despite "European" in the title, approximately 50 % of the attendees are non-European. The Conference was attended by more than 400 academic and industrial researchers from 38 countries. Around 100 students were present. These numbers are promising in that they indicate continued interest of students over a broad range of topics within thermophysics.

The main aim of the Conference was to encourage the presentation of recent developments broadly related to thermophysical properties with scientists attending from academic, government, and industrial communities. Thermophysical properties are important in many scientific disciplines, as well as in engineering and metrology. This Conference also provides a forum for academic and industrial researchers to meet and exchange experiences in the measurement, interpretation, and correlation of the thermophysical properties of a wide variety of systems involving both fluids and solids.

The 18th ECTP was organized by the University of Pau (Laboratoire des Fluides Complexes, UMR CNRS 5150), with assistance from the University of Bordeaux 1 (France), Constantine the Philosopher University of Nitra (Slovakia), and the Institute of Physics, Slovak Academy of Sciences (Bratislava, Slovakia).

It has been the tradition that papers from this Conference are published as special sections in selected international journals. This special section of the *Journal of Chemical and Engineering Data* contains some of these selected papers that have been subjected to the normal peer review process.

The next conference in the ECTP series will be the 19th European Conference on Thermophysical Properties, which is scheduled to be held in Thessaloniki, Greece, between August 28 and September 1, 2011, and will continue the remit of the conference with the measurement and interpretation of the thermophysical properties of fluids and solids. Further information regarding the 19th ECTP can be found at <http://19ectp.cheng.auth.gr/>.

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