Editorial

This issue of the *Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance* is devoted to the publication of a special set of papers focused on magnetic materials technology. The papers were selected from presentations given at the 1996 Hard and Soft Magnetic Conference, which was part of ASM International's Materials Week '96 held 7-9 October in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Conference was sponsored by the Magnetic Materials Group of ASM's Specialty Materials Division, and was organized into five sessions:

Hard Magnetic Materials, Part I

Co-Chairs

S. Constantinides, Arnold Engineering Co. K.S. Narasimhan, Hoeganaes Corp.

Hard Magnetic Materials, Part II

Co-Chairs S. Constantinides, Arnold Engineering Co. K.S. Narasimhan, Hoeganaes Corp.

Biological Effects From Magnetic Fields

Chair J.H. Bularzik, Magnetics International, Inc.

Soft Magnetic Materials

Co-Chairs E. Sirois, Arnold Engineering Co. V.R. Ramanan, ABB Transmission Technical Institute

Panel Discussion: The Future Progress of CRML Steel

Co-Chairs R.F. Krause, Magnetics International, Inc. P. Beckley, EES, Orb Works

The 1996 Conference was a great success in the content and presentation of the material. The program had diverse topics including an interesting presentation on biological effects and applications of magnetic fields. The panel discussion on the future of CRML steels produced a good participatory conversation between the panel members and audience. The papers being published here are all from the Soft Magnetic Materials area, giving an excellent overview of new developments. All the papers have endured the rigorous JMEP peer review process.

The Group Governing Board acknowledges the efforts of the session co-Chairs and the help of our international friends and fellow group members who made the event a success: S. Iguchi, Nippon Steel, USA, Inc.; T. Kuzuhara, Kawasaki Steel America, Inc.; and P. Beckley, European Electrical Steel. We are also indebted to the dedicated professionals of ASM's conference staff and the JMEP editors.

> **J.H. Bularzik** 1996 Program Chair Hard and Soft Materials Conference

