

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN*

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As Chairman, it is my privilege to welcome you to this workshop and to express my hope that you find this event a productive investment.

I want to thank Brown, Boveri and Cie (BBC) for their gracious hospitality in hosting this workshop. Having this workshop in Heidelberg and hosted by BBC has been fortunate for several reasons. First, as you know, BBC is well-known for their excellence in development work and in their battery test and evaluation programs. Such a center of excellence is an appropriate stage for the subject matter of this workshop. Another reason is obvious. As you can see, here are ideal and beautiful facilities to conduct our work. And still another reason is Heidelberg — a magnificent location with many cultural and scenic attractions. The outstanding social and spouses' programs, arranged by our hosts, attest to some of the magnificence of this area. We are indeed fortunate to have these many advantages.

I want to acknowledge that these beautiful facilities were furnished by the F.R.G. Bundesministerium für Forschung and Technologie who, along with the U.S. Department of Energy, are co-sponsors of this workshop. As indicated in the Acknowledgments, Dr Eisenbeiss and Mr R. Dahl of the FRG BMFT and Dr A. Landgrebe and Mr J. Quinn of the U.S. DOE were instrumental in launching this workshop.

The response to this workshop, the number of papers, and the comments that I have received indicate a clear need for this activity and for the opportunity for interaction that it affords. Participants from as far away as Australia, Japan, Canada, the United States, and the European countries are here to provide a true international forum.

Dr Landgrebe has posed four questions that this workshop should endeavor to answer. In answering those questions, I hope that we will provide a forum for the following:

- (i) Exchange of ideas and an understanding of how and why various tests are applied.
- (ii) New ideas and methodologies to obtain more meaningful test results.
- (iii) New instruments.
- (iv) Some suggestions for unified approaches and definitions which will mutually benefit the testing community.

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All of you know that the technical chairman of a workshop is a most important position. This position has been ably filled by Dr R. Knödler of BBC, without whose untiring efforts and continual help this workshop would not have been possible.