

## Foreword

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Roughly 275 members of the lithium battery community, among them about 70 from USA/Canada and 30 from Japan, gathered in Münster, Germany, for the 6th International Meeting on Lithium Batteries (6-IMLB). As a result of recent political changes there was also quite a strong attendance from Eastern European countries and from the former Soviet Union.

The five days of the meeting were devoted to the main topics:

- Lithium/Electrolyte Interface
- Anode Rechargeability, Insertion Anodes
- Polymer Electrolytes
- Thin-film Technology, Solid Electrolytes
- New Investigation Techniques and Cell Modelling
- Rechargeable Systems
- Marketing of Lithium Batteries
- Safety and Reliability of Lithium Batteries
- Cathode Materials
- High Power Lithium Batteries

Forty-six invited lectures were presented, in addition to almost 140 (contributed) poster papers.

It may be unfair to highlight special topics, however, this meeting may be classified as a 'rechargeable lithium battery meeting'. There was a good deal of emphasis on the progress and success of carbon-based rechargeable lithium insertion anodes. Many companies are developing or even selling 'lithium ion', 'rocking chair' or 'swing' rechargeable lithium batteries with lithium-carbon anodes in combination with transition metal oxide lithium insertion cathodes, such as  $\text{Li}_x\text{CoO}_2$ ,  $\text{Li}_x\text{NiO}_2$  and a variety of lithiated manganese oxides. Considerable attention was also paid to polymer electrolytes and thin-film technologies, in particular in view of potential large scale applications, such as electric vehicles. On the other hand, interest in conductive polymer electrode materials seems to be dropping.

The top social event of the week was certainly the banquet in the baroque moated castle of Nordkirchen. A post conference excursion led to various historical sites in the Münsterland area and ended in a proper farewell party in an old farm house.

I should like to thank all the authors and the enthusiastic audience, the technical session chair and co-chair persons, the technical program chairman, M. Broussely and the technical program co-chairman W. Weppner and last but not least the sponsors who together made this meeting a successful and agreeable one.

The 7th International Meeting on Lithium Batteries will be held in Boston, MA, from May 15-20, 1994, and H. Frank Gibbard will be the Chairman.

J. O. Besenhard  
Chairman 6-IMLB