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Preface

The 10th International Meeting on Lithium Batteries, “IMLB-10-Lithium 2000” was held from 28 May to 2 June 2000 at the Villa Erba Conference Center in Cernobbio, Como, Italy. The administration of the meeting was conducted by the Electrochemical Society Inc., and the local arrangements and social activities by the Volta Center in Como. The meeting benefited by a prestigious scientific sponsorship, which included the European Local Section of the Electrochemical Society; The Electrochemical Society of Japan; The Division of Electrochemistry of the Italian Chemical Society; The Comitato Comasco per le Manifestazioni Voltiane nel Centenario dell’Invenzione della Pila 1997–2000 and The Elettrochimica ed Energia, Rome. The meeting was generously supported by various cultural and industrial sponsors that included the Comitato Nazionale per le Celebrazioni Voltiane; The Battery Division of the Electrochemical Society, Inc. The Committee of Battery Technology; the Committee on Capacity Technology of the Electrochemical Society of Japan; The University “La Sapienza” of Rome; The Ente per le Nuove Tecnologie, l’Energia e l’Ambiente, Rome; The Lithium Battery Energy Storage Technology Research Association, LIBES, Japan; The US Army Research Office, London; The Arcotronics Italia SpA, Italy; The Ausimont SpA, Italy and the Eldor Corporation, Italy.

The IMLB-10 meeting was the 10th edition of the well established conference series IMLBs that started in Rome, Italy in 1982. The Rome IMLB-1 edition was attended by approximately 80 scientists, mainly from academic laboratories. Over 680 scientists from most of the key academic and industrial laboratories from all over the world attended IMLB-10 in Como — this clearly demonstrating the consistently increasing interest in the field of lithium batteries.

This interest is certainly motivated by the rapidly expanding commercialization of rechargeable lithium batteries in the consumer electronics market and by their expected extension in the electric vehicle area. However, although a commercial success, the lithium batteries are still the object of intense research and development, this also favouring a large academic involvement in the field, mostly directed in the investigation of new electrode and electrolyte materials. Indeed, more than 400 papers were presented at the meeting covering various aspects of the lithium battery research and technology.

The scientific program was organized by the chairmen, Professor Bruno Scrosati of the University of Rome, Italy, Professor Peter G. Bruce of the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, Dr. Frank R. McLarnon of Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, USA and Professor Zempachi Ogumi of Kyoto University, Japan with the help of a highly qualified International Scientific Committee including 27 top scientists involved in various areas of lithium battery R&D. Following a successful tradition of IMLBs, a selection of the papers presented at IMLB-10 is included in this Special Proceeding Issue of the *Journal of Power Sources*. The sequence of the papers follows the meeting program which was structured in various topical sessions, such as general, anodes, cathodes, liquid electrolytes, polymer electrolytes, batteries, polymer batteries and supercapacitors.

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