

Preface

The series of papers presented in this issue of *Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry* is a selection of papers delivered at the conference TERMANAL 2005. The conference has a long, almost 50 years' tradition. The period of the conferences changed several times; at present, the conference is organized with the periodicity of 2 years. 17th TERMANAL was held on 2–5 October 2005 at Stará Lesná, which is situated in the High Tatras region. The forests in High Tatras were heavily damaged by the hurricane in November 2004; despite that, the region belongs to beauty spots of Slovakia.

The main organizer of the conference was the Slovak Group of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry (SGTAC). 60 participants attended the conference, mainly from Slovakia and Czech Republic, but also from Poland, Hungary, Austria and Belgium. The scientists dealing with inorganic and organic materials, ceramics, glass, pharmacy, polymer science and TA methods and instrumentation presented 3 plenary lectures, 7 key lectures, 11 lectures and 20 posters. The sponsorship was provided by the companies TA Instruments, Mettler-Toledo and Shimadzu.

The conference TERMANAL was initially intended to be a local forum for the discussion within Czech and Slovak thermoanalytical community. However, the number of participants from abroad is continuously increasing. In 2003, the participants decided to organise TERMANAL as an international Central-European conference. This target was partly met at TERMANAL 2005 and it remains the topic of our effort for future.



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