

Editorial

As you know, Chris Berndt resigned as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Thermal Spray Technology* (JTST) on July 1, 2004, after leading the journal for 13 years, and I accepted to take over his responsibilities.

First of all, I would like to emphasize the exceptional work Chris has done over the last 13 years in setting up this journal and establishing it as an internationally recognized publication. The journal exists today as it is because of his vision, dedication, and hard work. I must add that I totally share the appreciation of Chris's role in the life of JTST expressed by Joachim Heberlein, Chair, Editorial Committee, and William W. Scott, Publisher, in their editorial published in the previous issue of JTST. Thank you, Chris, for the outstanding work you have done for the journal.

I would like also to sincerely thank Chris, Joachim, and the ASM publishing staff for their confidence in my capabilities to assume the important responsibilities of Editor-in-Chief of a journal like JTST. I will do my best to deserve this confidence. Having been part of the JTST family for more than five years as a member and co-chair of the Editorial Committee and more recently as associate editor, I know I can count on an exceptional team that will make it possible to continue improving the quality of the journal and expanding its impact on the thermal spray community.

As newly appointed editor, I want to carry on Chris's vision for the journal. JTST must be the reference journal for all aspects related to thermal spray science and technology, not only for scientists, but also for engineers, students, and sprayers around the world. This will be done by continuously improving the quality of the peer-reviewed papers and making sure that the columns are of high interest both for industry and the scientific community.

The contribution of the associate editors, ASM staff, and volunteers is crucial to achieve this mission. Each person has an important role to play in putting together high-quality papers and columns in each issue of the journal. Last year, the editorial team was expanded by the appointment of Jan Ilavsky, who is now responsible for the preparation of the front and back matter. I plan to move further in this direction by appointing new associate editors who will make the editorial team stronger and more representative of the international readership of the journal. Moreover, as recommended by the Editorial Committee, I want to include in the journal more review and tutorial papers that will make it even more attractive for the thermal spray community. Reducing the time to review and publish papers is another priority for the future. The implementation of the new electronic website for submitting and reviewing manuscripts (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jtst>) will help achieve this goal.

With these challenges in mind, I look forward to working with the editorial team to ensure the success of the journal.



Christian Moreau

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Editor-in-Chief