

# Editorial

## Much More than Just a New Cover Page



The *Journal of Thermal Spray Technology* celebrates its 15 years of existence in 2007. Indeed, the Journal was launched in March 1992 by ASM International under the strong leadership of Professor Chris Berndt, the founding Editor-in-Chief. Over the years, the *Journal* acquired a strong reputation as a key publication for scientists, engineers, students, and practitioners involved in the science and technology of thermal spray.

The success of a journal like *JTST* depends primarily on two factors: the high quality of the published papers and the wide distribution and visibility of the Journal. The first factor is the concern of the Editorial Team that works with the reviewers and authors to select papers to be published and ensures they respect high standards of quality and are relevant to the thermal spray community. Prof. Berndt assumed this responsibility for thirteen years with Prof. Lech Pawlowski's help, and currently I assume this role with the Associate Editors, Prof. Armelle Vardelle, Dr. Seiji Kuroda, and Dr. Jan Ilavsky.

The second factor of success is making the *Journal* highly visible to all scientists and practitioners worldwide while controlling the publication cost. To address this challenging task in this era of globalization, high competition, and budget constraints, ASM International decided a few months ago to enter in a new partnership with Springer for the publication of the ASM's scientific journals including *Journal of Thermal Spray Technology*. Springer is part of Springer Science and Business Media and is one of the world's leading suppliers of scientific and specialist literature. The current issue is the first one published in partnership with Springer. The new design of the Journal's cover page reflects this renewal, while retaining its traditional distinctive features: the famous green color, highlights, and cover picture.

However, the changes are much more profound than just the cover page. According to this new partnership, ASM will continue to own the *Journal* content and manage editorial operations, while Springer will serve as the production, manufacturing, marketing, sales, and delivery provider. The expected benefits of this new partnership for the *JTST* authors and readers are numerous. Clearly, the key benefits are a shorter publication delay and wider visibility of the articles. According to Mary Anne Fleming, Manager of Technical Journals at ASM, the main changes the authors and readers will see are:

- *JTST* articles will be published through Online First at four weeks after acceptance. This will be the official publication date.
- Availability of *JTST* at academic institutions and via consortia will be greatly expanded with the opportunity to be included in a large number of international library consortia licenses. This will result in increased visibility for our authors' work.
- *JTST* will be delivered online through SpringerLink, and member print subscribers will get free online access.
- *JTST* will be retrodigitized back to Volume 1, Issue 1, and all current subscribers will get free access to these backfiles.
- There will be no more page charges for authors, facilitating the publication of papers in *JTST*.

With this new partnership, we can anticipate significant international growth, including increased exposure in emerging markets. Moreover, it is expected that this wider visibility in those emerging markets and through a larger number of library consortia would contribute to an increase of the Journal's "impact factor."

Springer (<http://www.springer.com/>) is the second-largest publishing group in the science, technology, and medicine sectors and publishes a total of 1450 journals and more than 5000 new books a year. It is a recognized leader in the publication of materials science and engineering books and journals.

I think the ASM-Springer partnership is great news for all our authors and readers as it will contribute to the *Journal's* success and recognition as a privileged vehicle for publication of peer-reviewed papers in the science and technology of thermal spraying.

**Christian Moreau**  
Editor-in-Chief