

# Editorial



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This special issue of the *Journal of Thermal Spray Technology* features a selection of papers presented at the International Thermal Spray Conference 2009 (ITSC 2009) held in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, May 4-7, 2009. The theme of the conference, "Expanding Thermal Spray Performance to New Markets and Applications," focused on expanding the reach of thermal spray by both improving the performance for more demanding applications in traditional areas of use and by identifying new markets where these coatings could be exploited to provide enhanced surfaces.

The ITSC events have played a key role in advancing the science and technology of thermal spray and promoting its development and application. They are held on an annual basis and are organized jointly by the ASM Thermal Spray Society (TSS), the German Welding Society (DVS), and the International Institute of Welding (IIW). These international meetings attract participants from around the globe and bring together researchers, developers, manufacturers and end-users, representing all facets of the thermal spray community. The event promotes the science and technology side of thermal spray as well as the business and marketing aspect. At such a gathering, there are opportunities for learning about cutting-edge research and obtaining information on the latest developments in technology, equipment and materials. An important function of the event is in providing a forum for the participation in stimulating discussions and the exchange of ideas that often lead to the forging of new collaborations and partnerships.

This volume contains 55 papers drawn from the more than 200 appearing in the Proceedings of ITSC 2009 published in CD-ROM format. Authors of the selected papers were invited to submit manuscripts to the *JTST* where they passed through the full peer review process required for publishing peer reviewed papers in this journal. These papers represent a cross-section of the topics covered at the conference and provide insight into the latest developments and current trends in the thermal spray field. They include articles on more recently developed and evolving areas such as cold spray and suspension thermal spray, as well as contributions focused on a wide range of other relevant subjects. We hope you find the collection of papers contained within this expanded *JTST* issue to be a valuable reference source.

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