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Guest Editorial

This 3rd International Conference on Shaping of Advanced Ceramics (Shaping 3) was held in Limoges, France on May 10–12, 2006 under the auspices of the French Group of Ceramics (GFC) and of the European Ceramic Society (ECerS). The two previous conferences were organised in Belgium by the Flemish Institute for Technological Research (VITO) (1995 in Mol and 2002 in Gent).

The elaboration of ceramic parts with reliable, improved or new properties requires the control of shaping processes with the understanding of basic phenomena which take place during all the steps of the process and also the development of new shaping techniques. This last point is of major concern to develop multimaterial and/or multifunctional systems.

This Shaping 3 conference was focused on fundamentals and innovations of shaping of advanced ceramics including science

of colloidal processing, dry shaping or plastic forming, shaping of microcomponents, solid freeform fabrication, shaping using preceramic polymers, shaping of tailored architectures, modeling, etc. All the applications (energy, catalysis, biomaterials, photonics, filtration, electronics) were considered.

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