

Preface

The series of papers presented in this issue of the Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry include papers based on presentations made at various local section meetings throughout North America in 2003. Papers from the following local sections are in this issue:

Designation	North American Local Section
CTAS	Canadian Thermal Analysis Society
GSTAF	Garden State Thermal Analysis Forum
NCTAS	North Coast Thermal Analysis Society
OVTAS	Ohio Valley Thermal Analysis Society
TAFDV	Thermal Analysis Forum of Delaware Valley
WPTAS	Western Pennsylvania Thermal Analysis Society

We are delighted that Professor Bernard Wunderlich has provided a significant contribution and we have chosen his paper to introduce this issue. Material characterization is the primary focus of the remaining publications in this special issue with papers devoted to pharmaceuticals (5), nanocomposites (3), inorganic (3), photopolymers (1), gas hydrates (1) and bio-fuels (1). Papers on measurement of thermal conductivity using the flash method and use of a high pressure microDSC represent advances in thermal techniques. We sincerely thank all the authors for their papers and, most importantly, their timely responses to the reviewers' comments. Each paper was subject to review by two independent referees, who are acknowledged on the next page. We especially want to thank those authors who prompted the Editors for this issue (see below) into action on several occasions.

Editors

Acknowledgements

The manuscripts have been reviewed by the Referees listed below. The Editors gratefully acknowledge their careful and prompt consideration of the manuscripts.

P. Gallagher, Salem, USA	P. Le Parlouër, Caluire, France
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