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The Journal of Adhesion

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Foreword

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Foreword

In 1966 an International Conference on **Adhesion: Fundamentals and Practice** was held at the University of Nottingham, England, sponsored by the then Ministry of Technology (U.K.). This conference considered all aspects of adhesion and adhesives from the preparation of the substrate surface and chemistry of the adhesive, through joint design and assembly, to methods of destructive and non-destructive testing. It was an unqualified success. The proceedings, including discussions, were published in 1969¹ but, most unusually for such issues, had to be reprinted and still features in sales returns.

Therefore, it is somewhat surprising that it was not until almost thirteen years later that a successor to this event was conceived when the *Adhesives* and the *Polymer Properties* Groups of the Plastics and Rubber Institute formed an organising committee chaired by Dr. J. C. Comyn (Leicester Polytechnic) with S. G. Abbott (Shoe and Allied Trades Research Association) as Secretary. Hence *Adhesion and Adhesives: Science, Technology and Applications* was held at the University of Durham on the 3rd to 6th September 1980. The broad aim was to present current advances in the understanding and use of adhesives. Sessions covered such topics as surface chemistry and analysis, joint durability, mechanics of joint failure, toughened adhesives and the adhesion of elastomers. The conference attracted speakers and delegates from many countries and this, together with the generous support given by the United States Departments of the Navy (*Office of Naval Research*) and Air Force (*European Office of Aerospace Research and Development*), assured its success.

The papers from this conference were available in the form of extended abstracts before the conference² but are not being published as proceedings. Instead, authors were offered publication in *The Journal of Adhesion*, subject to the usual refereeing, and many of the papers will be appearing grouped together as they are received. This has the advantage of relatively rapid publication for the earlier papers but the disadvantage that they will not

1. Ministry of Technology (U.K.), *Adhesion Fundamentals and Practice* (MacLaren, London, 1969. Reprinted, Appl. Sci. Publ., London, 1970).
2. Plastics and Rubber Institute, *Intern. Conf. Adhesion and Adhesives: Science, Technology and Applications* (Plastics and Rubber Inst., 11 Hobart Pl. London, SW1 0HL, 1980).

necessarily appear in context as in the sessions in which they were originally given. A further feature of the conference was an afternoon devoted to a Poster Session in which work-in-progress was exhibited as graphs and diagrams for exposition by the authors to delegates interested in the subject matter. It is hoped that these presentations will graduate as papers for publication in *The Journal*.

Members of the organising committee are looking forward to the next such conference planned for 1984 and we trust it will be as successful as the previous two conferences.

A. J. Kinloch Technical Editors
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