

Preface

The international conferences on superplasticity in advanced materials (ICSAM) have been held every three years since 1982 and ICSAM2006 represents the ninth in the series of international conferences. The interest in the phenomenon of superplasticity has been increasing steadily over the past thirty four years, from the viewpoints of fundamental scientific understanding as well as industrial application. The objective of these conferences is to provide an international forum to stimulate discussions on a wide range of topics and encourage further developments in superplasticity. The previous eight meetings were successfully held in San Diego, Grenoble, Blaine, Osaka, Moscow, Bangalore, Orlando and Oxford, respectively. The interest and scientific research on superplasticity has broadened the scope of the topic to include metals, intermetallics compounds, ceramics, bulk metallic glasses, nanostructured materials and composites. In addition to contributed papers on the newest achievements of these advanced materials, the conference intends to invite key scientists to make presentations on topics of current interest in these fields.

The 9th International Conference on Superplasticity in Advanced Materials was held during June 23-26, 2006, in Chengdu, China. The conference provides a rare opportunity to bring together worldwide academic researchers and industrial practitioners for exchanging the latest developments and applications in superplasticity and superplastic forming technology and for promoting research collaborations. Most of the papers presented at this conference are included in the proceedings, which contains 104 papers divided broadly into 14 topics. I would like to thank all the authors for their important contributions to make the content of the proceedings such high quality.

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