

Preface

The International Conference on Materials for Advanced Technologies 2007 (ICMAT-2007) was held from 1 to 6 July 2007 in Singapore. It was organized by the Materials Research Society, Singapore, in association with Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, National University of Singapore and the Institute of Materials Research & Engineering, Singapore. ICMAT-2007 was a multidisciplinary forum providing over 2,000 research scientists and engineers a first-hand learning platform, as well as the opportunity to share and exchange ideas with some of the best minds in the field. Symposium Q on 'Advanced Structural and Functional Materials for Protection' focused on materials for the protection of civilians and soldiers against blast, fragmentation, unconventional attack, and also multi-functional materials for the enhancement of soldier performance. Protection materials represent one of the most challenging materials to synthesize and process due to the extreme application requirements. The understanding of the various mechanisms & sciences behind material behavior will contribute invaluablely to the development of materials for protection applications. Topics of interest include, but are not restricted to:

- Novel synthesis, processing and applications
- Micro and nano-structures
- Development of materials evaluation techniques
- Modeling, simulation and characterization
- Smart materials for structural and/or functional management
- Advanced sensors and devices