## **Preface**

Materials processing is an important and essential process for the formation of usable products. It is one of the major wealth-generating activities that create the economic basis for genuine improvements in the quality of human life. With the increasing requirements for the production of high precision, high integrity and high density devices and systems in our modern life, materials processing has become more important than ever before. Following the previous eight publications for the series of "Asia-Pacific Conference on Materials Processing", this book presents the latest development in this field on new understanding of the underlying mechanisms and new technologies for materials processing to meet the increasing needs of industry.

This book is a collection of selected, peer-reviewed papers contributed from around the world. The topics covered in this book include new development and applications in subtractive processes including advanced and non-traditional processes and abrasive machining, micro/nano-fabrication, material forming, new techniques for the processing of materials and understanding of underlying principles and materials performance enhancement.

This book provides a valuable reference for researchers in the materials processing field who wish to further understand the underlying mechanisms and create new and practical technologies, systems and processes. It should also be particularly useful for practicing engineers in materials processing who are responsible for the efficient and effective operations.

The Editors would like to thank all the authors for their contributions to the book and the referees for their constructive comments to make the papers such a high quality. Thanks are also due to the members of the Organising Committee for their help in putting the book together.

The Editors March 2012

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