

Preface

Current issue of journal *Solid State Phenomena* contains the papers contributed to the 26th International Baltic Conference *Materials Engineering 2017* was held on October 26-27, 2017 in Kaunas, Lithuania. The conference was hosted by Kaunas University of Technology and partially sponsored by Research Council of Lithuania.

International Baltic Conference of Engineering Materials and Tribology was initiated 27 years ago and the first conference took place in 1991 as “The first International Baltic Conference on Powder Metallurgy”. Since then, conference continues the tradition of the regular meetings held annually in one of the **three Baltic States**, with specific topics in each country:

- Surface Engineering and Tribology in Estonia,
- Biomaterials Engineering in Latvia,
- Engineering Materials in Lithuania.

The *Materials Engineering 2017* topics are:

- Engineering materials and applications;
- Advanced technologies in materials science;
- Surface engineering and tribology.

The conference *Materials Engineering 2017* continues the tradition of the previous regular meeting by attracting many of the best known leading scientists and specialists from almost all of the different fields of expertise covering materials engineering and tribology issues. *Materials Engineering 2017* had assembled the participants from 14 countries: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Germany, Austria, Russia, Turkey, Algeria, India and China. 81 abstracts were submitted but only 60 abstracts were approved and presented at the conference, including 27 oral and 33 poster presentations.

Also, we would like to express our gratitude to the authors who submitted their papers taking into account the manuscript submission deadline, to the reviewers for their support and effort during the manuscript revision as well as to the all members of the organizing committee – without your support and assistance it wouldn't be possible to organize this meeting.

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Kazimieras Juzėnas

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