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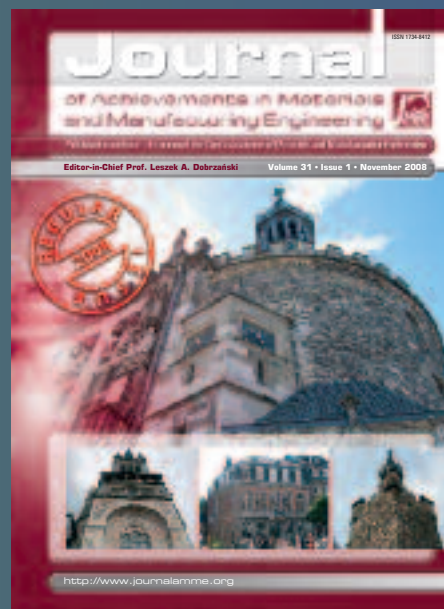
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Cover story

On 16th – 18th September 2008 in Aachen, Germany the 10th International Conference Semi-Solid Processing of Alloys and Composites S2P2008 organised by the RWTH Aachen University and University of Liège, Belgium took place. On the cover there is the 14th-century Rathaus (city hall), restored after it was destroyed during World War II. In the small pictures exteriors and interiors of Aachen Cathedral designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site erected on the orders of Charlemagne in 786 AD as the largest dome north of the Alps, extended several times in later ages, turning into a unique mixture of building styles, the coronation place of the most "Kings of the Germans" destined to reign over the Holy Roman Empire over the next 500 years after the coronation of Otto I in 936 to the last Ferdinand I who was crowned in 1531, can be seen. One of the small pictures presents Coeberghischen Stockhaus dated 1662 in which at present there is Couven-Museum.



Selected materialographical photo



The Manufacturing and processing section represented by L.A. Dobrzański and A. Drygala on "Surface texturing of multicrystalline silicon solar cells" on a **page 77** presents the laser method of texturisation multicrystalline silicon. The main reason for taking up the research is that most conventional methods

used for texturisation of monocrystalline silicon are ineffective when applied for texturing multicrystalline silicon. This is related to random distribution of grains of different crystallographic orientations on the surface of multicrystalline silicon. The major inconveniences are surface damage in the heat affected zone and depositing of foreign materials during laser treatment. Applied etching procedure allows for obtaining solar cells of high efficiency larger in relation to cells without texture. This paper demonstrates that laser texturing has been shown to have great potential as far as its implementation into industrial manufacturing process of solar cells is concerned.