

# Journal

of Achievements in Materials  
and Manufacturing Engineering



Published monthly as the organ of the World Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering

Editor-in-Chief Prof. Leszek A. Dobrzański

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## Cover story

Encouraged by the overwhelming success of the first 4 ICMAT conferences, the Materials Research Society of Singapore hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Materials for Advanced Technologies ICMAT 2009 from 28 June to 3 July 2009 at the Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre. These conferences were attended by more than 2,000 members of the international scientific and materials research community representing over 40 countries. There were 23 Symposia

covering contemporary topics of importance for the science, engineering and technology of materials. The technical programme included Plenary, Keynote, Invited, Oral and Poster presentations. About 50 international exhibitors from all sectors of materials science and engineering communities also showcased their products and equipment during the conference. In line with the previous ICMAT conferences, a few Nobel Laureates spoke at the conference. They also gave public lectures at the University Cultural Centre of the National University of Singapore. These lectures were opened to conference participants and to the general public including students from local Junior Colleges, Polytechnics and Universities. ICMAT 2009 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. The ICMAT 2009 was organised by Materials Research Society in Singapore in association with the National University of Singapore, the Institute of Materials Research and Engineering and the Nanyang Technological University.

Singapore, officially the Republic of Singapore, is an island city-state off the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula, 137 kilometres north of the equator, south of the Malaysian state of Johor and north of Indonesia's Riau Islands. At 710.2 km<sup>2</sup> Singapore is a microstate and the smallest nation in Southeast Asia. Singapore is a parliamentary republic, and the Constitution of Singapore establishes representative democracy as the nation's political system. The population of Singapore including non-residents is approximately 4.99 million. Singapore is highly cosmopolitan and diverse with Chinese people forming an ethnic majority with large populations of Malay, Indian and other people. English, Malay, Tamil, and Chinese are the official languages. A modern economy of Singapore is focused on industry, education and urban planning. Singapore is the 5<sup>th</sup> wealthiest country in the world in terms of GDP per capita. The 2009 Cost of Living survey, by consultancy firm Mercer, has ranked Singapore as the tenth most expensive city for expatriates to live in. In 2009, the Economist Intelligence Unit ranked Singapore similarly the tenth most expensive city in the world in which to live – the third in Asia, after Tokyo and Osaka.

On the cover you can see some views from the City Singapore.

