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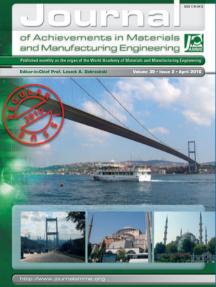
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Istanbul in Turkey is a peculiar symbol of the international cooperation, as the only city in the World situated in two continents. The cooperation between two continents is symbolised by two suspension bridges in Istanbul. The Bosphorus Bridae. also called the First Bosphorus Bridge with a view for the Asian side, which can be seen in the big picture on the cover, is bridges in Istanbul, Turkey, spanning the Bospho-



rus strait and thus connecting Europe and Asia. The bridge is located between Ortaköy (on the European side) and Beylerbeyi (on the Asian side). It is 1,510 m long; the distance between the towers is 1,074 m. The Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridge, seen in the first small picture, named after the 15<sup>th</sup> century Ottoman Sultan Mehmed the Conqueror also known as the Second Bosphorus Bridge, is a second bridge in Istanbul, situated between Hisarüstü (European side) and Kavacık (Asian side). It is 1,510 m long; the distance between the towers is 1,090 m. In the next small pictures the objects of the rich architecture of that City which has acquired a reputation for being a cultural and ethnic melting pot are presented as examples. As a result, there are many historical mosques, churches, synagogues, palaces, castles and towers to visit in the city, among those in the central picture originally a church, later a mosque, and now a museum, the 6<sup>th</sup> century Hagia Sophia built by Justinian, the latter being the largest structure on Sultanahmet Square in the Eminönü district, and the most important surviving example of Byzantine architecture in the world, was presented. It was the largest ever cathedral building in the world for a thousand years, until the completion of the Seville Cathedral in Spain. In the last small picture one of many other imperial mosques, built in the following centuries, that is the famous Sultan Ahmet Mosque (built in 1616) which is also known as the Blue Mosque for the blue tiles that adorn its interior, is presented. The historic areas of Istanbul were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1985. Istanbul was chosen as joint European Capital of Culture for 2010. Every year the city is a venue of many international scientific conferences. It will be surely visited by all participants of the 13th International Materials Symposium organized in October 2010 by the Pamukkale University under the patronage of the Word Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering on their way to Denizli about which the information are given at the last page of the cover. We invite the PT Readers of the Journal of Achievements in Materials and Manufacturing Engineering to participation in great numbers in that very promising scientific event.

Cover story