



Dear Readers,

Quebec City is the capital of the Canadian province of Quebec located in the Saint Lawrence River valley, on the north bank of the Saint Lawrence River near its meeting with the Saint Charles River. The narrowing of the river approximate to the city's promontory, Cape Diamond, and Lévis, on the opposite bank, provided the name given to the city, Kébec, an Algonquin word meaning "where the river narrows". Founded in 1608 by Samuel de Champlain, Quebec City is one of the oldest cities in North America. The ramparts surrounding Old Quebec are the only remaining fortified city walls that still exist in the Americas north of Mexico, and were declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1985. Quebec City lacks nothing to charm its visitors. Its architecture, pedestrian streets and fortifications unique in North America offer an extraordinary historical and cultural heritage for exploring.

On the cover there is the Parliament Building as an eight-floor building and home to the Parliament of Quebec. The building was designed by architect Eugène-Étienne Taché and was built from 1877 to 1886. It is located in Place Assemblée Nationale and sits on top of Parliament Hill in the district of Vieux-Québec–Cap-Blanc–colline Parlementaire, just outside the walls of Old Quebec. The Château Frontenac, currently known as Fairmont Le Château Frontenac, where is a grand hotel in Quebec City and which was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 1980 can be seen in the first photo. In the last photo there is the City Hall of Quebec City located on rue des Jardins and designed by architect Georges-Émile Tanguay in the heart of Historic District of Old Quebec. It was inaugurated on 15th September 1896. The building slopes downward as it was built on a hill and was once home to the Jesuit College from the 1730s to 1878. The city hall was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 1984. The central picture presents monument of an inuksuk stacked with carefully selected stones, as a cultural symbol of the original population of Inuits and other peoples of the Arctic region of Canada and a sign of friendship between Quebec and them. An inuksuk (plural inuksuit) generally is a stone landmark or cairn built by humans, used by the Inuit and other peoples of the Arctic region of North America. Inuksuit continue to serve as an Inuit cultural symbol. The word inuksuk means "something which acts for or performs the function of a person". The word comes from the morphemes inuk ("person") and -suk ("substitute").

In Quebec City from 1st August to 5th August 2011 at the Quebec City Convention Centre the International Conference on Processing and Manufacturing of Advanced Materials THERMEC'2011 as the 7th International conference on advanced materials built upon the proven concept and continues the tradition of its six predecessors, Japan (1988), Australia (1997), USA (2000), Spain (2003) Canada (2006) and last in Germany (2009) will be held. This conference series provides a forum for researchers around the globe to present papers which will cover all aspects of processing, fabrication, structure/property relationships and applications of both ferrous and non-ferrous materials including biomaterials, aerospace and other advanced materials.

The soul of this undertaking for many years and connected also with our Journal of Achievements in Materials and Manufacturing Engineering is Prof. Tara Chandra from the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Wollongong in Australia, this time cooperating closely with Prof. D. Mantovani from Canada, Prof. S. Takaki from Japan and Prof. R. Srinivasan from USA. We wish both the Organizers and all delegates of the Conference successful debates.

Handing over the next issue of the our Journal of Achievements in Materials and Manufacturing Engineering AMME to P.T. Readers, as usual, I invite P.T. Authors to present their papers to be published in the next issues of the Journal and am convinced that those prepared this time will be interesting to P.T. Readers.

Gliwice, in July 2011

Prof. Leszek A. Dobrzanski M Dr hc
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President of the WAMME
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