



*To the members of the IOC
of the ECTP*

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the yearly issue of the ECTP Newsletter, that keeps us in contact and informed in between IOC meetings. Apologies for the delay of this issue due to different circumstances.

Newsletter - May 2009

NEWS
WELCOMES
ECTP

In preparing the updated list of current IOC members that is being sent out with the Newsletter, some simple statistics have come to my mind. Only seven of the fifteen IOC members have joined the committee before the year 2000, therefore more than 50% of current members are recent additions. The new younger members are a sign of the inevitable passing of time but also an indication that the European thermophysics community is alive and well. The first ECTP was held in 1968 and all the original founders are no longer with us. The second generation that took over the conference organization is now retiring and it is therefore the responsibility of new younger members to gradually take over organizational responsibilities, according to their interests and capabilities. It is my hope that they will be not only good conference organizers, but will be leaders of the European thermophysics community, providing new ideas and directions for development.

Some years ago, when I became IOC Secretary, an electronic record containing most of the minutes of old IOC meetings was created, with the main help of Kosta Maglic. This record details the ECTP history and senior IOC members have received a copy of this archive in 2002. Anyone interested in the updated copies of this record can just let me know their interest. It is now the responsibility of the younger members to carry on the torch, indicating with comments, suggestions and proposals the future direction that the ECTP should take. This Newsletter is and will be open to anyone with ideas and proposals on the matter.

Francesco Righini

ECTP 2008

The Eighteenth European Conference on Thermophysical Properties (ECTP) was held this past September (August 31 - September 4, 2008) in Pau, France. The conference was co-organised by the University of Pau, which was responsible for the scientific program regarding the fluids, and the Institute of Physics, Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava together with the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra as well as the University of Bordeaux 1 (France), which were responsible for the scientific program related to the solids. The event began on Sunday evening with an ice breaking reception in the Palais Beaumont - Congress Centre downtown. All the scientific sessions took place in the Faculty of Science at the University of Pau Campus. Poster sessions were given in the main hall of the faculty and oral sessions were accommodated in four faculty amphitheatres of 200 places each.

After the review procedure and some cancellations (details in Table 1), the final conference program consisted of **185** oral and **266** poster presentations. Sixty percent of the presentations covered the thermophysical properties of fluids and forty percent those of solids. The oral presentations were split in four parallel sessions from Monday to Wednesday and in three parallel sessions on Thursday.

Table 1

Author Preferences: **526 presentations**

	Fluids	Solids	<u>Total</u>
Oral	126	75	201
Indifferent	79	68	147
Poster	111	67	178
Total	316	210	526

After abstract review: **494 presentations**

	Fluids	Solids	<u>Total</u>
Accepted Oral	120	87	207
Accepted Poster	178	109	287
Rejected	18	14	32
Total Accepted	298	196	494

Final Program: **451 presentations**

	Fluids	Solids	<u>Total</u>
Oral presentations	107	78	185
Poster presentations	165	101	266
Total Accepted	272	179	451

The morning sessions were opened by invited talks and were closed by short workshops, as listed in Table 2. According to the views of many participants, most workshops were very interesting with lively debates.

Table 2

Workshops and their leaders

Workshop	Leader
Photothermal Techniques	J.L. Battaglia
Transient Techniques	V. Boháč
Thermal insulations	H.P. Ebert
Processes	E. Kaschnitz
Petroleum Fluids	A. Goodwin
Thermophysical Properties of Ionic Liquids – Are they necessary?	C. Nieto de Castro
Mass diffusion and Thermo-diffusion	Z. Saghir
Recent developments in viscosity measurement and modelling	E. Vogel

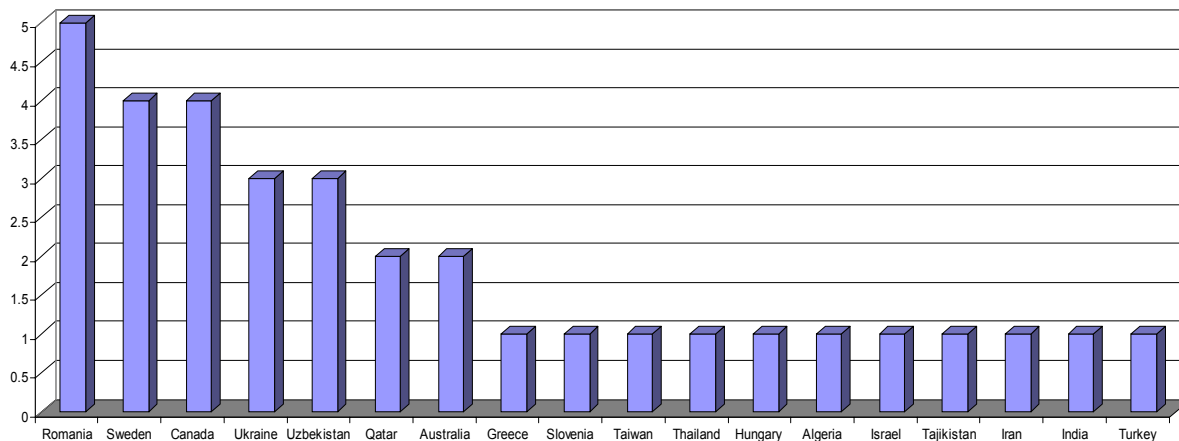
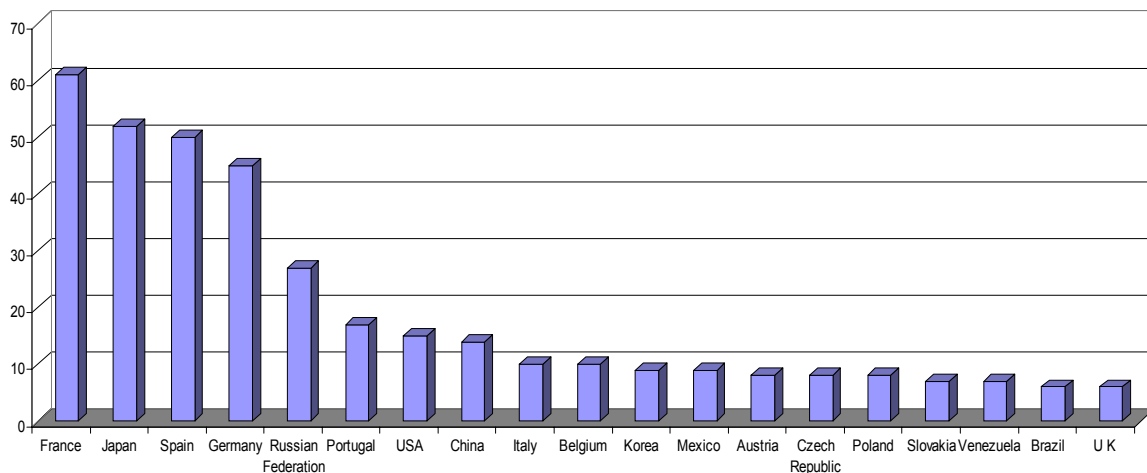
The posters were separated in two sessions dealing both with solids and fluids. One poster session was scheduled on Monday, the other one on Wednesday so that each poster remained displayed for two days, giving ample time to attendees to examine them. Exhibition stands, located with the two poster sessions in the main hall, ran through the conference. The location of the posters as well as the extended display time were very effective in favouring contacts. In addition to the various scientific events, an afternoon break was arranged to give attendees the opportunity to meet and establish ties with colleagues in a very informal way. During this free time,

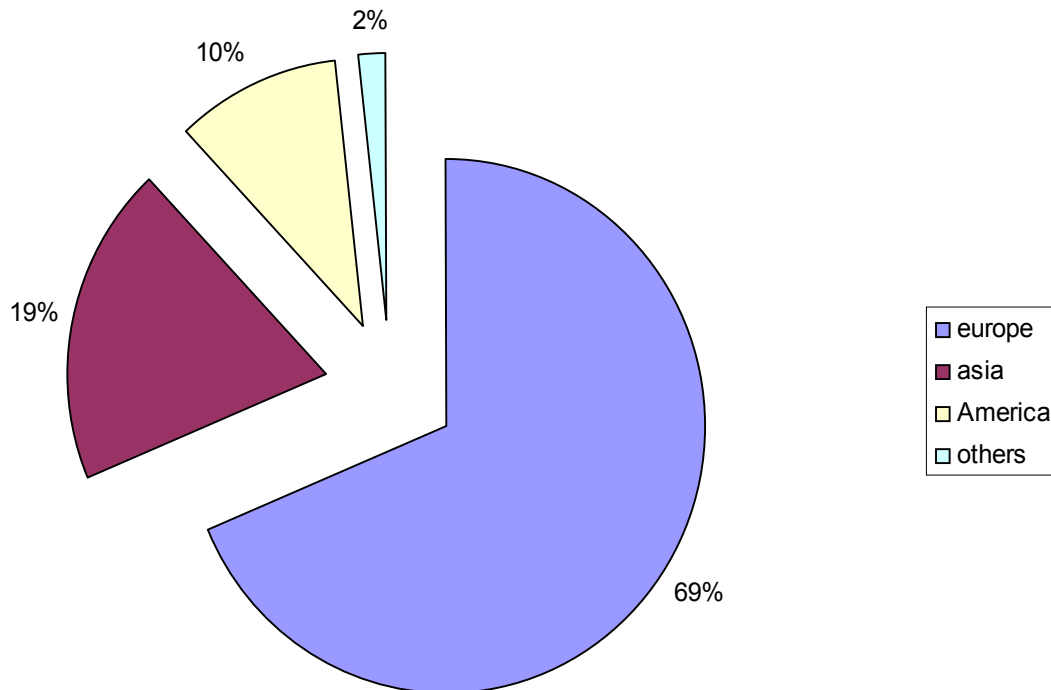
participants were encouraged to take advantage of planned excursions to visit some tourist attractions of Pau and its surroundings.

The conference was highlighted by three plenary lectures given on Monday morning after a short opening ceremony :

- 100 Years Liquefaction of Helium — A Breakthrough in Thermophysical Properties Research and Its Contemporary Significance by **Arno Laesecke** (N I S T / Physical and Chemical Properties Division)
- Thermophysical Properties of Reservoir Fluids: New Challenges for the Petroleum Industry by **Francois Montel** (Total / Geoscience Technologies)
- Carbon Nanotubes and Graphene Flakes: Physics and Applications by **Siegmar Roth** (Sineurop Nanotech Research Lab Technologiezentrum)

The award session was held on Wednesday afternoon. During the ceremony, recipients of the ECTP-NETZSCH Young Scientist Award and of the ECTP Award for Lifetime Achievements in Thermophysics gave lectures. Juergen Brillo (DLR German Aerospace Center, Germany), who received the ECTP-NETZSCH Young Scientist Award, presented his work on metallic alloys with a talk titled: "Thermophysical Properties of Multicomponent Melts". Akira Nagashima (Yokohama National University, Japan) received the ECTP Award for Lifetime Achievements in Thermophysics. In his presentation he discussed the role of conferences, of research institutions and of the thermophysical-property community related to the exchange of scientific information. His presentation was titled: "Thermophysical Properties and Scientific Information Common".





ECTP 2008 was attended by over 400 people from 40 countries. As it can be seen in the figures above, France as the organizing country had the greatest number of attendees with 60 delegates, but Japan, Spain and Germany were close behind with about 50 delegates each. These four countries made up half of the participants. The Russian Federation was also well represented with around 30 delegates. There were also a substantial number of participants from the USA and China. Finally, about 70% of the delegates were from Europe, about 20% from Asia and about 10% from America.

During the organizational planning we did not expect so many attendees and so many requests for oral presentations. We had the overall aim to have a free afternoon and to maintain as much as possible the preferences of authors regarding oral or poster presentations. This was broadly achieved, but required four parallel sessions with an early start in the morning and a late finish in the afternoon. Two days (Monday and Wednesday) were particularly busy for attendees, but they did not seem to mind. However several questions were raised

concerning the position of the invited lectures at the beginning of the sessions.

Most of the participants found the venue pleasant and comfortable, and enthusiasm for the presentations remained high for the first four days of the event. There were lively discussions during oral and poster presentations as well as during the different workshops. Unfortunately attendance fell off sharply during the last morning. This was unfair to those scheduled to speak that morning and particularly for invited ones. This problem should lead to some reconsiderations concerning the schedule of the conference. It might be better to conclude the conference with the gala dinner.

As a conclusion, I would like to take the occasion to thank all the members of the local organizing committee for their work. I particularly express my heartfelt thanks to Antoine Baylaucq and Ludovit Kubičár for all their work and for the time they spent in making the conference a success. Thanks are also due to the scientific committee and the workshop leaders for their help in building a valid scientific program. I wish Marc Assael

the best success for his work in organizing the next ECTP in 2011.

J. L. Daridon

IOC News

Comments. Comments and suggestions regarding all the Newsletter items are welcome. Please send the material via email to f.righini@inrim.it