Special Issue on Advanced Light Metals and Processing in Asia 2007

PREFACE

The use of light metals such as aluminum, magnesium and titanium has become extremely attractive and technologically important because of their high specific strength, special functionalities and good recyclability. High performance light metals are used for a number of applications including automobiles, rapid transportation vehicles, aircraft & aerospace equipments, computer components and construction.

In many Asian countries, the importance of light metals is dramatically increasing rapidly. It is, therefore, essential to create opportunities to exchange information on research activities and the industrial status of each country. The Japan Institute of Light Metals (JILM) proposed the establishment of the Asian Forum on Light Metals. The first Forum, 2007 Asian Forum on Light Metals, was held in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, in December 3–5 last year. The established Forum is one part of the International Communication Program (ICP) which was proposed by the International Communication Committee of JILM in 2005. The Light Metals Exhibition and CEO Summit were also held during above period. Nineteen valuable papers from Japan, Taiwan and Korea were presented concerning aluminum, magnesium and titanium alloys. The next Forum, 2008 Asian Forum on Light Metals, will be held this year in Korea with more participants.

The International Communication Committee and Editorial Committee of JILM decided to publish a special issue of selected papers under the title of "Advanced Light Metals and Processing in Asia 2007". We hope that this special issue will be useful in advancing the understanding of light metals, and we deeply appreciate the efforts of the organizer and contributors to this special issue.

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