Editorials' corner – a personal view

New approaches to the processing and tailoring of the properties of reinforced polymers

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This issue of eXPRESS Polymer Letters contains selected papers presented at the 3rd China-Europe Symposium on Processing and Properties of Reinforced Polymers held in Budapest, 11–15 June 2007. The founders of this conference series are Prof. C. G'Shell and Prof. S. L. Bai. The first conference was held in Nancy, France, while the second one in Beijing, China. The third conference at Budapest was attended by 180 participants from 30 countries, who visited also the exhibition 'Composites on Tour' (www.compositesontour-2.be) supported by the European Union. This exhibition involved the very first presentation of the most up-to-date composite products of the leading designers and companies in Europe.

Advancement of modern polymer composites such as nanocomposites, smart composites, hybrid com-

posites, fire retarded and green composites are increasingly represented at the meetings of this conference series. The common thinking of scientists of modelling, simulation, processing and testing of polymer composites generated new ideas, and created new cooperation among research groups. This meeting paid special attention to the establishment and enhancement of direct connections among the participants, and provided consultation possibilities for students.

This issue presents representative selection of the most recent results of the abovementioned research areas within the field of reinforced polymers. These papers, similarly to the relevant talks at the Budapest meeting, will, hopefully, promote the understanding among the researchers of the field and this tendency will surely continue in Guilin, China, where the fourth conference will be held in 2009.

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