

# Preface

Friction stir welding (FSW) was invented by TWI (formerly The Welding Institute), Cambridge, UK and patented in 1991. The real growth in this field started in 1995. In the last 21 years, FSW has seen a very significant growth in both technology implementation and scientific exploration. This is the ninth symposium on Friction Stir Welding and Processing (FSW/P) held under the auspices of The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society (TMS). The interest and participation in this symposium is an indirect testimony of the growth of this field. This year, a total of 72 abstracts have been accepted, and presentations will require seven oral sessions with an additional poster session with 14 unique posters. The presentations cover all aspects of friction stir welding and processing from fundamentals to design and applications. Thirty manuscripts are published in the conference proceedings. The field has reached a critical new phase; this is the first symposium after the expiry of the TWI friction stir welding patent.

This symposium and the accompanying proceedings honors the contributions of Murray W. Mahoney to the field of FSW/P. As we reflect back, we see how instrumental he was to the scientific endeavor associated with FSW/P. He organized the first TWI International Symposium on Friction Stir Welding at the Rockwell Science Center, where at that time he was the manager of the structural materials group. Among many firsts, his first paper in *Metallurgical and Materials Transactions A* is a classic in the field. He was instrumental in starting the TMS Friction Stir Welding and Processing symposium in 2001. This has been a remarkable career full of contributions to the field of FSW/P.



Murray W. Mahoney, a champion of friction stir welding and processing

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