

Editorial

New IFHTSE President: Hans-Werner Zoch

The 1 January 2010 is the start of a new Presidential period of office for IFHTSE. In accordance with the Federation's Constitution and usual practice, Professor Hans-Werner Zoch, IWT Bremen, Germany, who has been Vice President during 2008–09, assumes office as nineteenth President for the two years 2010–11.

Hans-Werner Zoch, a graduate of the Technical University Darmstadt and the University of Bremen, is Managing Director and Professor of Materials Science in the Foundation Institute of Materials Science (IWT), Bremen, and Managing Director of the Bremen Center for Materials Testing. His PhD thesis at IWT was supervised by Professor Peter Mayr, who was IFHTSE's President for 1996–97.



Zoch comes with considerable and highly appropriate industrial experience: he has been Managing Director of New Materials Bayreuth Ltd (a technology transfer company of the Bavarian High Tech Initiative, Freestate of Bavaria) and has served in many senior management capacities for 29 years with FAG Kugelfischer Georg Schäfer AG, Schweinfurt. His expertise and interests have involved him in education and training and in a number of boards and committees, many with core relevance to the automotive and mechanical engineering industry and its materials:

- Chairman of the Scientific Board of the German Federation of Industrial Research Associations Otto von Guericke eV (AiF)
- Chairman of the Materials Working Group of the German Research Association of the Transmission Industry (FVA), member of VDMA, Frankfurt (about 140 industrial members from AUDI to ZF)
- member of the Scientific Board of FVA, Frankfurt
- member of the Materials Committee and Metals Sub-Committee of the Association of German Automotive Manufacturers (VDA), Frankfurt
- member of the Board of the German Association of Heat Treatment and Materials Technology (AWT), Bremen (about 200 industrial and 400 personal members)
- Member of the Alloy Steels Sub-Committee of the German Association of Steelmakers (VDEh), Düsseldorf
- member of the German Association of Materials Science (DGM), Frankfurt
- Editor-in-Chief of *HTM – Heat Treatment and Materials*
- Associate Editor of *Tribology Transactions*.

From the very beginning of his professional life he has been involved with heat treatment of steels: through-hardening, case carburising or induction hardening, and related properties. One major interest, the subject of his PhD thesis, is the control of distortion. He chaired the International Conferences on Distortion Engineering in Bremen, Germany, in 2005 and 2008; the next event in the series will take place in 2011.

Professor Zoch faces a busy period in office. He plans to attend personally as many events in the IFHTSE conference programme as possible, a programme that will include two events in the Congress series: the 18th Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in July 2010 and the 19th Congress scheduled for Glasgow, Scotland in October 2011.

He says: 'I hope to mark my term of office by seeing solid IFHTSE achievement in:

- promoting and improving international collaboration between industry and science in terms of heat treatment and surface engineering
- development of the global network of the IFHTSE community by gaining additional members from national associations and companies
- supporting local IFHTSE members in inspiring young people to gain qualifications directed towards employment in heat treatment and surface engineering
- building on the success of former IFHTSE presidents in promoting materials and production engineering.

'I send my best regards to all members of IFHTSE, colleagues and partners, and wish all a rapid recovery from the critical economic situation virtually all of us are facing. I look forward to successful cooperation during the next two years, and hopefully meeting most of you at the various events in the IFHTSE conference programme.'

Robert Wood

Secretary General, IFHTSE