

Preface

Practical results and universal truths in surface analysis

On behalf of the organizing committee, it is my great pleasure to write the preface for the proceedings of the PSA-13 (The sixth International Symposium on Practical Surface Analysis) that was held in Okinawa, Japan, in October, 2013. In the symposium, we had 89 participants and 13 exhibitors from 9 countries. We also had 35 oral contributions and 37 poster contributions.

Since 1998 the PSA conferences have been successively held in Matsue (Japan, 1998), Nara (Japan, 2001), Jeju (Korea, 2004), Kanazawa (Japan, 2007), and Gyeongju (Korea, 2010). We have discussed with great interest many aspects of surface analysis, such as theory, simulation, reference materials, instrumentation, data analysis, applications, and also standardization. The target materials are metals-steels, semi-conductors, inorganic materials, polymers, nano-materials, bio-materials, materials for green technology, and so on. The applications for the new materials such as the nano-materials or materials for the green technology, which were not appeared in the first PSA, have been discussed.

The practical applications and standardization are the important purpose of a series of the conference. The standardization is one of the universal truths, on which the modern science and technology based. The practical applications, which give the individual results, are performed using the universal truth. The universal truth is established through the accumulation of the practical analyses of one laboratory, inter-laboratory testing, and the previous works, and they will lead to the universal truth. Both of the practical applications as the individual results and the standardization as the universal truth can lead to the break through of the materials and processes.

I hope that such kind of the activities on the surface analysis will be discussed in the next PSA meeting that will be held at Daejeon, Korea in 2017. I look forward to meeting you again in Korea.

Dr. Satoshi Hashimoto

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Chairperson, Organizing committee, PSA-13