## **Preface**

## 2nd International Conference on Advances in Solidification Processes ICASP-2, 17-20 June 2008, Seggau Castle, Graz, Austria

The aim of this conference was to unite metallurgist, scientist and engineer to discuss the fundamentals of solidification technology and its application to advance solidification processes. This conference was the second meeting after the successfully held ICASP in Stockholm, organized by Prof. Hasse Fredriksson. The congregation is a unique forum for advanced modelling of solidification as well as experimental solidification and applications in modern casting processes. A wide range of topics were submitted to this second International Conference on Advances in Solidification Processes which included: Continuous Casting, X-Ray In-Situ Observations, Dendritic Growth, Advances in Modelling, Macrosegregation, Grain Refinement and Nucleation, Cast Iron, Peritectics and Eutectics, Mushy Zone Features, Convection Driven Phenomena, Microstructure, Progress in Casting Processes, Superalloys, Defects in Casting, Convection Driven Phenomena, and Columnar-to-Equiaxed Transition, amongst others.

A closer look at the conference programme revealed over 148 presentations with 165 participants from 30 countries from all over the world, including Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea, India, USA, Australia and Pakistan as well as from European countries including Austria, Germany, France, Portugal, Romania, United Kingdom, Poland, Denmark, and Turkey. Of the manuscripts received 83 have been accepted for publication in IJCR. Many people have contributed to make this conference possible. Special thanks go to the international steering committee as well as to the organizing committee, to all contributing speakers, and the team of the Austrian Society for Metallurgy and Materials (ASMET) for their practical organization role. In particular we would like to thank the sponsors of ICASP-2, Böhler Edelstahl GmbH & Co KG and voestalpine Stahl GmbH for their support.

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