

FOREWORD

The 60th Electric Furnace Conference represents a significant milestone for the Iron & Steel Society and the electric furnace industry as the last stand-alone Electric Furnace Conference. We have seen many changes in the industry and the conferences over these 60 years, and can expect to see many more changes in the future. It has been said – “Change is disturbing when done to us, exhilarating when done by us.” For those of us who have been involved in the planning for this last Electric Furnace Conference and the development of the new combined ISSTech 2003 Conference, it has been a little bit of both.

This volume of the proceedings and the 59 preceding volumes represent the authoritative review of the progress and technical developments of electric furnace design and operation from its earliest days, and provides handy reference for the electric furnace operator and those who are learning to be operators. Plant management should find these proceedings quite valuable, in that it records in one place the views and experience of operating executives, melters, metallurgists, furnace and equipment engineers, suppliers, and researchers on present trends and future possibilities.

This conference comprises numerous presentations put together by authors and co-authors from many different countries. There are 20 separate sessions covering the advancements and new technologies in energy conservations, environmental control, steelmaking technologies, ferroalloys process technologies, foundry operations, refractories, and specialty steel.

Special thanks go to the volunteers who make up the planning and organizing committees and their companies for supporting their activities, and to the authors, presenters and session chairs who make these conferences possible. On behalf of the Conference Committee I would like to give a very special thanks to Dave Kanagy, Jackie Manchias and the rest of the staff of the Iron & Steel Society for their patient assistance and for doing the real heavy lifting that makes this conference such a success.

Norman G. Bliss, *Chair*
60th Electric Furnace
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