

## Preface Proceedings SBDD XI

The 30 papers gathered in this issue of *physica status solidi (a)* give a thorough overview over different topics that were presented during the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the *International Workshop on Surface and Bulk Defects in CVD Diamond Films (SBDD)*, which took place from February 22 to 24, 2006, at the Hasselt University in Diepenbeek–Hasselt, Belgium. Since its start more than 10 years ago, the *SBDD* workshop has grown into a well-established, yearly “early bird” meeting place, addressing new emerging science related to the progress in the CVD diamond field. The 10 invited lectures, 29 contributed oral presentations and 26 posters were presented in several sessions during an intense two and half day long meeting.

The number of participants reached 115 this year with participants coming from fifteen countries: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Sweden, U.K., and U.S.A. The mixture of young and established scientists, including a great proportion of students, made this meeting a hot spot of lively discussions on a wide range of scientific subjects, not only during the meeting itself, but also at several occasions throughout many social events offered by the hospitality of the city of Hasselt.

It stands for itself that the workshop would not have been possible without the support of many people and institutions. For financial aid we are especially indebted to the Scientific Research Community “Surface Modification of Materials” of the F.W.O.-Vlaanderen (Belgium), whose incessant support plays an important role in keeping this meeting going. We also thank the Hasselt University for offering the lecture hall and infrastructure facilities and Seki Technotron Corp. for sponsoring the poster reception and their presence with a table top exhibit. Finally we highly appreciate the active approach of the editorial staff of *physica status solidi* in this conference and would like to thank most notably Stefan Hildebrandt, Ron Schulz, Christoph Lellig and Julia Hübner, for their excellent and patient work, bringing the number of successfully published proceedings of SBDD in *pss (a)* up to 8 already!

To finish, we would all like to invite you for the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the SBDD series, newly renamed as “Hasselt Diamond Workshop”, to be held at its established location of Diepenbeek-Hasselt. We look forward meeting you again at SBDD XII in 2007:

Hasselt Diamond Workshop – SBDD XII  
February 28 – March 2, 2007  
Hasselt University, Diepenbeek – Hasselt, Belgium  
<http://www.imo.uhasselt.be/SBDD2007>

London, Paris, Hasselt, August 2006

Richard B. Jackman, Program Chair – SBDD XI  
Miloš Nesládek, Conference Organiser  
Ken Haenen, Conference Secretariat