

## Foreword

The 12th International Baltic Conference “Engineering Materials & Tribology – BALTMATTRIB-2003” was held in Tallinn, October 2–3, 2003. This year the conference was organized by the Department of Materials Engineering of Tallinn Technical University, Association of Baltic Materials Societies, Estonian Materials Science Society, and Estonian Welding Society.

The Baltic Conferences have become truly international forums of scientists active in the field of materials science, materials engineering and tribology. Thus, a tradition has been established. The aim of the conferences is to share the most up-to-date knowledge, to preserve and widen the work contacts of scientists from different countries, to promote exchange of ideas and information, and to give new insights.

The topics of the conference were the following:

- advanced metallic materials and materials engineering,
- powder materials and powder metallurgy,
- coatings and surface engineering,
- wear of materials and tribology.

The following special sessions were organized in the framework of the conference:

- powder metallurgy and materials,
- coatings,
- materials engineering,
- tribology.

More than 50 participants from 10 countries attended the conference presenting in the total 47 papers.

This volume presents a selection of papers, presented at the conference.

Jakob Kübarsepp  
Conference Chair

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Conference Co-chair