

Metals industry set for Metec 2011

The quartet of international trade fairs Metec, Gifa, Thermprocess and Newcast runs this year from June 28 until July 2 in Düsseldorf, Germany.

The event is held every four years and, with the slogan The Bright World of Metals, is for all those involved in the metals industry.

Organiser Messe Düsseldorf said it will be the largest event yet with 77,230m² of exhibition space booked so far. The 2007 event, held at the top of the economic boom attracted 72,000m² of floor space. More than 70000 visitors are expected to the trade fairs.

European Metallurgical Conference

The Society for Mining, metallurgy, Resource and environmental Technology has organised the 6th European metallurgical Conference (EMC). This year it has the topic: Resources and Degree of Efficiency in the Non-Ferrous Industry – Optimisation and Improvement.

The last EMC attracted 300 participants from more than 40 countries, from industry and academia. Poster presentations will provide information about current metallurgical research activities at universities and industry.

Dr Ing Karl Hermann Bruch, EMC 2011, Scientific Committee Chair said due to increased energy costs it was indispensable that new as well as existing material and energy flows were optimised and newly designed.

Lectures are dedicated to topics such as refining of non-ferrous metal, development and investigations in recycling of complex materials, models for productivity increases and consolidation in the non-ferrous metal industry.

The plenary lectures includes a presentation by Günte Kircher of the Organisation of the European Aluminium Recycling Industry (OEA), Germany who will talk about Aluminium Scrap as a Vital Source of Aluminium Supply, while there will be presentations within the conference on recycling, process control and light metals. Speakers will attend from companies including SNC-Lavalin, SINTEF research organisation, Hatch and Swerea Mefos. The conference runs between June 26-29. More details www.emc.gdmb.de

Bookings

Project Director Friedrich-Georg Kehrler said he was extremely pleased with the amount of exhibition space booked.

"We did not expect this. Everyone in our industry thought that the exhibitors would come, but with substantially smaller stands. The bookings made to date reveal, however, that the trade fairs have grown



More than 70 000 are expected to attend the four trade fairs in Düsseldorf

considerably, by almost 5000m²." Messe Düsseldorf responded to exhibitors' requests for larger stand areas a number of months ago and made another, larger hall (Hall 3) available for Metec – and the space there is almost fully booked as well. The four technology trade fairs are now being held in Halls 3 to 17.

It looks like a new record for both the number of exhibitors and the amount of space booked will be set at Metec: 18.4% more companies will be represented, while the stand space booked has increased by more than 34.6%. With 437 exhibitors and almost 20000m² of space, the trade fair is bigger than ever before.

The number of companies registering for Thermprocess is considerably higher than in 2007 too: about 300 exhibitors and more than 9500m² of space booked are extremely impressive figures. The trade fair will as a result have more exhibitors this year than ever before in its 37-year history.

Exhibitor numbers at Gifa has slightly decreased as a result of the downturn from 793 in 2007 to 723 companies now. The exhibitors are not willing to compromise on space, however and have booked about 42,000 square metres compared to 43800m² in 2007.

More than 50% of visitors to the four shows are from outside Germany. There is a considerable presence from India and China, while the Middle East and USA are well represented as well as people from Europe.

The main areas covered by the Metec show are plant and equipment for processing prime and raw materials, iron

making/steelmaking/nonferrous metal production, for casting steel/nonferrous metals, for shaping steel/nonferrous metals, for environmental protection and disposal, for electrical engineering and process control technology and for measurement and test technology.

The majority of visitors in 2007 came from steel works and rolling mills or were suppliers to the iron and steel industries.

Gifa 2011 is a trade fair for the foundry industry and covers casting machines (die-casting machinery), complete foundry plants, pattern and die making, handling and automation technology, measurement and test technology, and environmental protection and waste removal.

Ecometals

This year sees the launch of the ecoMetals initiative, which aims to showcase the latest developments that reduce energy consumption.

If a company is exhibiting at one of the four trade fairs and offers products and solutions which lead to improvements in energy efficiency and are environmentally friendly, then it can apply for the awarding of the ecoMetals logo.

The list of participants involved in the ecoMetals initiative includes Elkem, LOI Thermprocess, London & Scandinavian Metallurgical Co Ltd and StrikoWestofen. ■

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