

Editorial Foreword

(E50 P2) Preview 2 of Issue 50 of the Superconductivity News Forum is now available with several additions compared to Preview 1! Hopefully, this Preview will capture your attention – we aim to publish significant information for the community quickly: therefore, we publish Preview 2 prior to the release of our full Issue No. 50 that will be available in January of 2022.

This preview celebrates the 20th anniversary of the discovery of MgB₂ in Jun Akimitsu's group at Aoyama-Gakuin University in Tokyo, Japan. We are proud to publish the translated presentation of Jun Akimitsu himself given at the '2021 Virtual Spring Meeting of the Cryogenic and Superconductivity Society of Japan' in May 2021, in which he describes the discovery of MgB₂, its solid-state properties, and possible applications. Added is the presentation of Giovanni Grasso of ASG Superconductors given in the same meeting who reports on the further development of MgB₂ materials and the current status of applications.

The second part of this preview publishes 15 selected invited presentations of the 'Virtual Coated Conductors for Applications Workshop 2021' which took place as a virtual event in October 2021. In two sections, it gives a very interesting overview over the current status of Materials and Conductors Development and for Large Scale Applications. The goal of CCA 2021 was to bridge the latest coated conductor materials science technology achievements to various applications. The selected contributions cover the highlights not only of latest materials developments but also of optimized processing and manufacturing technologies to meet the specifications for some essential applications. The various applications, which are selected, range from magnets for particle physics and fusion, as well as for NMR/MRI, to electric power equipment and medical science.

We hope that you will find this Preview informative and timely. As always, you will also find information about conferences and technological highlights in this Preview 2 of Issue No. 50 of SNF.

Horst Rogalla and the SNF Editorial Team