Message from
the WET ICE Organizer

This year WET ICE 2003 was held in Europe for the first time in its 12-year history. It was held at the beautiful campus of the Johannes Kepler University located in Linz, Austria, on the Danube River. The famous “L-D” process (named after the steel centers at Linz in Upper Austria and Donawitz in Styria) accounts for a large percentage of commercial scale production of steel globally. Workshop participants came from 16 different countries in keeping with the international character of WET ICE.

This year six workshops were held under the aegis of WET ICE of which four were new. The ECE workshop was in its fourth year and the ES workshop was in its eighth year. A total of 73 papers were submitted to the six workshops; 56 full papers and six short were accepted for publication. The Steering Committee of WET ICE was instrumental in reviewing the new workshop proposals. The workshop organizers and the Program Committees worked very hard to maintain the quality of the workshops. As a result, we had a very successful and well-attended WET ICE this year. The format of WET ICE 2003 was kept the same with the workshops held in parallel. The joint sessions were devoted to the plenary talks, panel sessions for promoting interaction among the workshops, best paper presentation and the final workshop reports.

My sincere appreciation goes to the workshop organizers, the Program Committees of the workshops, and the WET ICE Steering Committee for their diligent work and also to all the participants for lively discussions.

I gratefully acknowledge all the help provided by the General Chair, Professor Gabriele Kotsis, who was instrumental in obtaining very valuable local support for WET ICE, providing on-site help throughout the conference, and also getting three wonderful plenary speakers. The Mayor of the city of Linz, Dr. Franz Dobusch, gave the welcoming address at the reception.

The dates for next year’s WET ICE are 14-16 June 2004 and the venue will be again Europe—Modena, Italy, a city famous for manufacturing of exotic automobiles. Professor Giacomo Cabri will be the General Chair and local host. Hope to see you all next year in Italy.

Sumitra Mitra Reddy
Organizer, WET ICE 2003