

## Information

### Second Symposium on Laser Techniques

As a result of solicitation of the Electronics and Telecommunication Committee, Polish Academy of Sciences, the new nation-wide conference, named *Symposium on Laser Techniques*, has been created as a permanent institution.

The first Symposium organized in Toruń (Poland) took place in 1984. In 1987 the second *Symposium on Laser Techniques* was held in Szczecin (Poland) on September 7–10, having been organized by the Institute of Industry Automation, Technical University of Szczecin. The duties of chairman of the Honour Committee of the Symposium was performed by Prof. BOHDAN PASZKOWSKI, full member of the Polish Academy of Sciences; the duties of chairman of the Scientific Committee was performed by the author of this note, while the duties of chairman of the Organizing Committee was performed by Prof. BOHDAN WOŁCZAK.

There were 230 participants in the Symposium, 140 posters were presented and 13 plenary papers given.

The presented works comprised the problems of: design and technology of laser assemblies and different types of laser methods of material parameters measurement, methods of stabilization, amplification, generation and modulation of laser radiation and design of laser devices to be applied mainly to the processing of materials used in medicine and metrology.

It should be emphasized that the atmosphere of the meeting was quite different from that of the previous one. The first Symposium was a meeting of the good-will people who seeing the devastation of both scientific and technical achievements of Polish scientists in the field of laser technique came together to review the actual state of affairs and to discuss the ways of making up for the lost time. The postulate number one, agreed during the discussion, was to restore the central sponsoring and coordination of the works done in the field of laser technique in this country. This postulate has already been realized. The Central Research Programme 8.14 has been created and it is directed by the Technical University of Warsaw. In realization of it, there participate 26 research centres from the whole country. Therefore, it is hardly to be wondered that a great excitement was noticeable during the Second Symposium. This meeting was extremely important since the exchange of information and experience as well as factual critics of the works being in the first stage of their realization may influence in significant way the quality of the design and technique solutions.

On the other hand, the panel discussion showed a great care of all the performers about the application of the undertaken works, namely, how to bring the matters into completion, i.e., to mass copying of both the equipment and subassemblies elaborated so far.

The participants were provided with a volume of reports (463 pages). In the near future two other volumes are expected to be published, one containing the plenary papers and the other one — the summaries of the plenary papers and the reports in English. During the Symposium the Scientific Committee awarded the authors of 18 presented papers (in one case a collection of papers) with the honour diploma to acknowledge the high level of their works. The other 86 papers were selected, which after suitable preparation will be published as a separate book to be distributed by the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE) across the United States.

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