

## — Conference Report —

### **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON METAL RECYCLING AND TREATMENT OF SECONDARY RAW MATERIALS**

**MAY 8–10, 1996, PODBANSKE, HIGH TATRAS, SLOVAKIA**

Slovakia is a country with a rich history in mining and metallurgy, Slovakia's production of gold and silver in the 15th century was 90% and 25%, respectively, of the European production. However, the mines have been exploited and today most of the mines are closed down. The country's industry is, however, quite large and the need for various metals is considerable. On the other hand, environmental and ecological regulations pose considerable limitations on the mining activity. To assist the industry, Technical University of Košice organised International Conference on Metal Recycling and Treatment of Secondary Raw Materials.

There were 72 participants from Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland, Austria, Switzerland, Hungary, Romania and Russia. Twenty four lectures and six posters were presented and vivid discussions were conducted on the problems of recycling. Forty one contributions were published in the conference proceedings which can be obtained for US\$20.00.

The most important and interesting papers were about magnetic separation of red mud from alumina production, the recycling of precious metals, particularly in automotive catalytic converters, various possibilities of aluminium dross treatment, hydrometallurgical treatment of electronic scrap, the recycling of fluorescent tubes and mercury discharge lamps, recovery of cadmium from wastes of zinc metallurgy and others.

Participants noted that many problems in metal recycling and in treatment of secondary raw materials are the same in most countries and that numerous efficient techniques are already applied in practice or are available. It was agreed to hold further conferences on the same subject.

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