



Advanced Composite Materials

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Preface

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Preface

This special issue is derived from the papers presented at the Workshop for Processing and Testing of CMCs Parts, Components and Pieces. This workshop was planned as a satellite meeting for the joint conference of The Second International Symposium on the Science of Engineering Ceramics and The Third International Conference on High-Temperature Ceramic Matrix Composites (EnCera '98 & HT-CMC 3: 6–9 September 1998, Osaka, Japan) together with the special joint conference of the annual International Symposium on Ultra-high Temperature Materials, and was held in Tajimi, Japan on 11–12 September 1998.

CMCs have been studied for more than 20 years mainly on their fundamental aspects. Several combinations of materials, such as fibers and matrices, have been tested, and the promising ones selected and evaluated for some applications, mainly in the field of aerospace technology. Though significant advances have been made, the development of CMCs is still facing a critical stage, since the actual performance of these materials is not convincing enough for applications even in the field of aerospace. To overcome this problem, it is necessary to focus on the improvement of the quality of CMCs in oxidizing or aggressive atmosphere.

Besides the aerospace applications, other applications of CMCs, in the field of energy and environmental technology, for instance, are intensively demanded. The technological factors that govern the progress of the applications of CMCs include the processing directed to parts, components and pieces, the design procedures, the testing methods taking into consideration the life prediction, as well as the standardization. The scope of this workshop was therefore to bring together the experts in these interactive fields, let them discuss about the aforementioned issues and exchange their opinions on the latest developments in CMCs as well as the guidelines of further research in this field.

We would like to acknowledge the members of the organizing committee in this workshop: Prof. E. Yasuda (Tokyo Institute of Technology), Dr. H. Amano (JUTEMI), Dr. M. Fujikura (JUTEMI) and Dr. M. Drissi-Habti (NIRIN). Special thanks are due also to the Gifu Prefectural Government. Tajimi City Government,

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