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## Preface

This volume contains papers presented at the Second Asia-Pacific Catalysis Conference, APCAT 2000, held at Darling Harbour, Sydney, Australia, in February 2000. APCAT 2000 followed the first APCAT meeting held in Korea in 1997 [Catal. Today 44 (1–4) (1998)], which was in turn the outgrowth of a number of bilateral and multilateral meetings on catalysis held around the Asia-Pacific region over the past 20 years. The APCAT meetings provide a venue for catalysis researchers from the developing economies of the region to present results, discuss future directions, and meet with colleagues from the North American and European catalysis communities.

APCAT 2000 attracted 140 delegates from 18 countries: Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom and United States. The program comprised six plenary lectures, three keynote lectures, 44 contributed oral papers and 68 posters. Papers selected from this program are presented here.

A new feature of APCAT 2000 was a half-day forum on Future Directions in Catalysis. This forum, chaired by Prof. Y.G. Kim from Postech, Korea,

provided the opportunity for a selected panel and the general audience to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the discipline of catalysis in the 21st century, with particular emphasis on the Asia-Pacific region. The edited transcript of the forum discussion is also included in this volume.

The success of any meeting is dependent on the efforts of the Organizing Committee; for APCAT 2000 this comprised Prof. D.L. Trimm (Chair), Prof. A. Masters (Secretary), Dr. E. Kennedy (Treasurer), Prof. R.F. Howe (Program and Publication), Prof. N. Cant, Prof. S. Adesina and Mr. G. Paul. Sponsorship by Haldor-Topsoe A/S, Johnson-Matthey Catalytic Systems Division, Southern Pacific Petroleum N.L. and Shimadzu Scientific Instruments (Oceania) Pty Ltd., and the enthusiastic participation of all delegates, are gratefully acknowledged.

R.F. Howe\*

*School of Chemistry  
University of New South Wales  
Sydney, NSW 2052, Australia*

\*Tel.: +61-2-9385-4674; fax: +61-2-9385-6141.  
E-mail address: r.howe@unsw.edu.au (R.F. Howe).