



As this issue goes to the press, 'Welding China 2006' the 11th International Welding & Cutting Fair has just concluded in Beijing, China held between 16th to 19th May 2006. This is the largest welding fair in Asia and since the first event in 1987 has experienced a steady & vigorous growth powered by the prospering Chinese economy. This year nearly 700 exhibitors from 15 countries & more than 20,000 visitors participated and was indeed a very impressive event on all counts. From India a large group of visitors numbering around 150 attended the Fair.

Back home, Chennai Branch will be organizing the '**Weld India 2006**' the international welding technology exhibition to be held concurrently with the '**National welding Seminar 2006**' during 24-26 November 2006 in Chennai, which can be termed as the automobile capital of India with the major auto giants like Hyundai, Ford, Mitsubishi TVS, Ashok Leyland, Catetrpillar, Royal Enfield, TI Cycles etc. having their plants there and producing around 80% of the nation's vehicles. This exhibition is expected to draw more than 150 high profile exhibitors from across the globe.

With effect from this issue, the responsibility for publication of the journal is once again entrusted with the Head Quarter and a new Editorial Committee is in place. Efforts will continue to uplift the technical content of the journal and I am happy to report that a lot of interest has been shown by our readers from all over the country and abroad and lot of suggestions are pouring in.

The Editorial Committee has decided to accord more emphasis on publishing application based technical articles and I take this opportunity to request authors from industries to contribute articles based on their experiences and achievements will indeed be beneficial and interesting to readers at large.

We are also trying to widen our readership base and apart from the corporate and individual members we would like to distribute IWJ to the educational and research institutes as well as to a large numbers of welding and related industries at a nominal cost. Readers are requested to suggest names of interested persons and organizations so that we could approach them.

In this issue, we have included 4 very interesting technical papers - all of which should make useful reading for our readers.

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