Dear Members, Colleagues and Friends,

with the turn of the year also my presidential term has ended. Looking back, several significant developments and changes have taken place. Most important are the financial stabilization, the extensions of our membership-base towards new (and former) members, the advancement of our conference activities and last but not least the changes in our personnel structure.

In financial affairs we have achieved a complete turnaround, which provides a solid foundation for future activities. This was largely achieved by the extension of our membership base to new and (in several cases also former) association-type members like Italy, Russia, Sweden and Switzerland as well as new company members like Solo. Additionally strengthened by these new members, also our conference activities are expanding both in numbers of conferences and participants as well as in the number of high quality contributions. This trend was supported by a clear policy of avoiding too many events in too close time and location, cooperating with the European-HT-Conference series and the Tooling-Conference series as well as with the merger of QCD and IDE.

Last year, the long term fundaments of our federation, Secretary General Bob Wood and Treasurer as well as former President Zoltan Kolozsvary
have retired. I’d like to thank them one more time for all their efforts they have contributed to our society and the support they have given to my predecessors and myself. Three other long running EC-members, and thereby strongholds of IFHTSE, have also retired. The first, one year ago, was George Totten, former President and heavyweight American representative, who, to my estimation, has also made the largest number of contributions to our conferences over the years. He was always a refreshing and critical mind in the different discussions we had. Paul Stratton, reliable organizer of many evaluations for the Tom Bell Young Author Award as well as tireless joint Editor of the IHTSE-journal was leaving by the end of last year as did Kiyoshi Funatani, our most senior and experienced EC-member. Both have significantly contributed to the development of our federation during all their years of service, for which our sincere gratitude should be expressed.

A well-rehearsed team is not easy to substitute, but fortunately new well experienced members could be found, who will uphold the flame of IFHTSE in the future. The new team will definitely be younger and more female, the last one another important achievement for our future. This does not automatically mean that everything will be better, but it offers the opportunity for new activities and views. As not all fields of development have yet achieved its future structure, just to mention our publishing activities, there will be plenty of possibilities for them to get engaged in our federation.

I’d like to thank all of you who have supported me during the last four years of my (vice-) presidency. Besides the above mentioned, this applies especially to former President Hans-Werner Zoch for his always supportive advice, Past-President Kewei Xu and new President Patrick Jacquot for their ongoing backing in our steady advancement and new Secretary General Stefan Hock for his enthusiasm, open mindedness and worldly wisdom he introduced into our federation from the first day in office.

Finally, I invite you to support our new President Patrick Jacquot, Secretary General Stefan Hock and recently inaugurated Treasurer Imre Felde as well as their new team in the Executive Committee in a similar constructive and auxiliary way as you supported me and I wish you All the Best for a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year 2016!

Reinhold Schneider
Past-President IFHTSE
New Members of the Executive Committee

In 2016 we welcome four new members to IFHTSE's Executive Committee:

- Simon Blantern (Bodycote, Great Britain)
- Masahiro Okumiya (Toyota Technological institute, Japan)
- Massimo Pellizzari (University of Trento, Italy)
- Larisa Petrova (MADI University, Russia)

They have an important function in IFHTSE: to the statutes, the „Executive Committee manages the business of the Federation“. We look forward to working with the new members and are glad to have in them a personal link to the relevant community in their countries and regions.

In the coming bulletins we shall present the individuals to our readers, starting here with Larisa Petrova:

Larisa Petrova is a Senior Researcher of the Scientific Department of Moscow Automobile and Road Construction State Technical University (MADI), Professor of the Chair of “Technology of Structural Materials” of MADI.

Dr. Larisa Petrova has the Diploma of Metallurgy Engineer of Moscow State Steel and Alloys Institute (MISIS) – 1983, Ph.D. in Material Science in Engineering – 1988, Dr. Tech. Sci. - 2001, Full Prof. of the Chair of Metal Science and Heat Treatment -2004. From 2005 till 2013 she works as the Head of the Chair of Metal Science and Heat Treatment of MADI.

She is known as a follower of Lakhtin’s scientific school of surface strengthening of steels and alloys. She is a specialist in thermo-chemical treatment of steels and in particularly in nitriding processes.

Larisa Petrova is the author of more than 300 scientific and methodical publications, among them monographs and textbooks in material science and in pedagogics. She is a certified as International Engineering-Educator in the Register of “ING-PAED IGIP”, and she is an academic supervisor of Ph.D. applicants.

She is known for her international activity: she is the Corresponding Member of the International Engineering Academy, the Vice-President of the Russian Monitoring Committee of International Society for Engineering Education (IGIP).

Larisa Petrova is recognized in the Russian Federation: she is the Academician of the Academy of Transport of Russia, Honorary Educationalist of the Ministry of Education and Science of RF. In 2009 she become a Prize-winner of the Government of the Russian Federation in the field of education.

Now she actively works as a Deputy Chair of the Russian Society for Metal Science and Heat Treatment (ROMIT).
Obituary

IFHTSE mourns George Harwood Bodeen who passed away this year. George Bodeen, who was president of Lindberg Steel Treating Company in Chicago, served in many functions, most prominently as president (1983) for ASM and was also the Founding President of the ASM Heat Treating Society. In honour of his extensive work in the international heat treating community, he was Honorary Vice President of IFHTSE.

We will always hold his memory in honour.

Forthcoming Conferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Conference Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>APR</td>
<td>18-22</td>
<td>23rd IFHTSE Congress</td>
<td>Savannah, GA</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asminternational.org/web/ifhtse/home">www.asminternational.org/web/ifhtse/home</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>2nd Heat Treatment &amp; Surface Engineering Conference and Expo 2016</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>India</td>
<td><a href="http://www.htsechennai.com">www.htsechennai.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>SEP</td>
<td>20-23</td>
<td>Heat Treat Mexico</td>
<td>Queretaro</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asminternational.org/web/htmexico">http://www.asminternational.org/web/htmexico</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>SEP</td>
<td>26-28</td>
<td>3rd Mediterranean Conference on Heat Treatment and Surface Engineering</td>
<td>Portorož</td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vojteh.leskovsek@imt.si">vojteh.leskovsek@imt.si</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>OCT</td>
<td>26-28</td>
<td>HK 2016 [languages: German/English]</td>
<td>Cologne</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td><a href="http://www.awt-online.org">www.awt-online.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>JUN</td>
<td>26-29</td>
<td>IFHTSE Congress / European Conference on Heat Treatment</td>
<td>Nice</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="http://www.a3ts.org">www.a3ts.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>AUTUMN</td>
<td></td>
<td>International Conference on Quenching and Distortion Engineering</td>
<td></td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>