

FOREWORD

On 16 and 17 of September 2013 the National Service of Industrial Apprenticeship (SENAI) promoted in Curitiba-PR the First International Seminar on Industrial Innovation in Electrochemistry, which attended more than 150 participants from Universities, Industries and government agencies. The motivation of this seminar was to disseminate and consolidate the culture of applied research and development, as well as innovation, in the Brazilian industry and at the same time raise awareness for industries that innovation is a strategic agenda for sustainability and competitiveness. Electrochemistry is therefore an inductor of this process, due to its broad possibilities of application in several areas.

During the seminar invited lectures of companies have shown several cases of projects undertaken with universities and researchers from national and international universities, in terms of applied research in electrochemistry. The invited speakers were from different countries, universities and research centers, such as the Department of Applied Electrochemistry of the Fraunhofer Institute from Germany, the Center for Electrochemistry and Environmental Technologies (CNETE) from Canada, the University of Manchester from United Kingdom, the Institute Acreo from Sweden and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from the United States of America. As far as Brazil is concerned, the invited speakers came from Universities (such as UFAL and UFSCar) and different companies such

as Volvo, Braskem, AkerSolutions, Itaipu, Rodhia, Weg Tintas, Tecno Plating, Copel, Neoortho, Klabin and Paranaense Metrics Network.

Thus, the seminar aimed at promoting interaction and dissemination of industry-research partnerships as well as the benefits generated by such kind of process from the point of view of Electrochemistry and its derivations in the area of materials and process innovation. The dynamic of the event was coordinated to ensure a stimulating discussion, inspiring and innovative environment, while strengthening the relationship of industry and applied research groups, so that they can act coordinately in the processes of innovation and technology, contributing to the growth of national industry. During the event also took place the inauguration of the first Institute of Innovation of SENAI, the so-called “SENAI - Institute of Innovation in Electrochemistry”, located in Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil.

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