

Germany

15th FAST/SPS Expert Committee Meeting at Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin (HZB)

On 29 May 2019, the German Expert Committee "Field Assisted Sintering Technique/Spark Plasma Sintering" (FAST/SPS) met for the 15th time in Berlin Wannsee/DE, hosted by the Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin/DE. The invitation of the group of experts was followed by numerous national and international participants from industry, research institutes and universities.

After introductory words by Expert Committee Initiator Prof. Olivier Guillon (Forschungszentrum Jülich/DE), PD Klaus Habicht (HZB) gave an insight into the research with the help of large-scale scientific facilities. Special emphasis was placed on different characterisation possibilities and application examples of neutron scattering and X-ray diffraction at HZB.

In the following, experts from HZB (Dr Danny Kojda, Dr Katerina Fritsch) and IFW Dresden/DE (Dr Gabi Schierning) described current research results and areas of appli-

cation of FAST/SPS in the field of thermoelectrics. Both silicon and oxide-based material systems were presented and discussed. Thereafter, Prof. Wolfgang Tremel from the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz/DE talked about the possibilities of FAST/SPS for the chemical synthesis of complex oxides and nitrides.

The first part of the meeting was completed by a talk by Dr Jean-Pierre Erauw (BCRC/BE), who again dealt with the optimisation of the thermoelectric properties of Fe_2VAl compounds using FAST/SPS.

Finally, a tour through the laboratories for the production and characterisation of thermoelectrics and the neutron source was given. This allowed a deep insight into the research on thermoelectric materials and the use of large-scale scientific facilities at HZB.

The next Expert Committee Meeting will take place at Forschungszentrum Jülich/DE on 10 December 2019. Everyone is cordially invited to learn about the newest developments and the unique equipment installed there.
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