

Recent Advances in Thin Films Deposited by Vacuum Methods

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

20 May 2024

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Techniques for depositing thin films make it possible to refine the surface layer of the element, ensuring the required functional properties, while possibly using cheap materials for its core. Among the many techniques increasing the functional properties of engineering materials surfaces, vacuum methods play an important role in industrial practice. The use of vacuum thin film deposition methods enables research and development work on modern material technologies, in which nanotechnology plays a key role. Research areas considered strategic and of higher priority, i.e. medicine and energy production from renewable sources, are of particular interest. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Theoretical and experimental research, knowledge and new ideas in vacuum thin film deposition methods;
- Recent developments in multi-functional inorganic thin films;
- Thin films produced by different processes, including chemical vapour deposition (CVD);
- Physical vapour deposition (PVD) and atomic layer deposition method (ALD);
- The use of thin films deposited by vacuum methods in the field of optics, electronics, photovoltaics and medicine.



mdpi.com/si/66288

Special Issue

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Message from the Editorial Board

Now more than ever, research is called for to produce technologies and improve knowledge to solve the major challenges faced by our society. The development of new materials and devices for (without the ambition to be exhaustive) energy, health and food technology, together with the need for establishing processes that reduce the impact on critical resources and the environment, is indeed at the center of most contemporary research. Surface science and engineering play a key role in this regard. Refining surfaces and their modifications provides new materials, architectures and processes with a huge potential to aid most societal challenges. *Coatings* is a well-established, peer-reviewed, online journal that focuses on the dissemination of publications in the field of surface science and engineering. *Coatings* publishes original research articles that report cutting-edge results and review papers on the hottest topics.

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