

Surface Engineering and Thin Film Processing Technologies for Energy-Efficient Applications

Guest Editor:

Dr. Laura Manceri

GREENMAT, University of Liège,
Institut de Chimie B6a, Quartier
Agora, Allée du Six Août, 13, 4000
Liège, Belgium

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Message from the Guest Editor

Producing energy without consuming too much is a challenge we have to face nowadays, and in terms of photovoltaic, passive or active solar filtering, energy storage, or photocatalytic applications, smart thin-film production could be the solution.

Despite the high reproducibility and atomic-scale control that physical methods benefit from, only the solution-based methods (dip-coating, spin-coating, blade-coating, spraying, evaporation, or printing) allow fine control over layer composition, thickness and porosity, versatility in doping and precursor choice and low or room-temperature growth of materials.

However not all the processes are readily scalable and this special issue will precisely address this problem. The following aspects will be developed in this issue:

Green, chemical, up-scalable routes for thin functional films processing and device fabrication

Innovative solution strategies for increasing the thin film performance

Representative parameters assessment for high-scale thin films performance evaluation

Film fabrication up-scaling perspectives and limitations



Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Wei Pan

State Key Laboratory of New
Ceramics and Fine Processing,
School of Materials Science &
Engineering, Tsinghua University,
Beijing 100084, China

Dr. Emerson Coy

NanoBioMedical Centre, Adam
Mickiewicz University in Poznań,
ul. Wszechnicy Piastowskiej 3, 61-
614 Poznań, Poland

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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Coatings Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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