

## North American Perpendicular Magnetic Recording Conference Debuts January 2002

The first North American Perpendicular Magnetic Recording Conference (NAPMRC) will be held January 7–9, 2002, in Coral Gables, Fla., on the premises of the University of Miami. The purpose of the conference is to bring together representatives of both industry and academia to discuss the advantages, the difficulties, and the timing of the transition to perpendicular magnetic recording.

As the storage industry ramps the areal bit densities at increasingly higher rates, thermal instabilities in recording media begin to manifest themselves. Perpendicular recording technology, while being technically close to conventional longitudinal recording technology and the least difficult technology to make the transition to if necessary, addresses the issue of thermal stability for areal bit densities exceeding 100

Gbit/in<sup>2</sup>. The NAPMRC will cover major topics related to perpendicular recording technology, which include heads and media, system integration, device and materials modeling, and channels. The conference will have a single-session format with all invited speakers. A poster session will showcase contributed work. The conference proceedings (invited papers only) will be published in the July 2002 issue of *IEEE Transactions on Magnetics*.

The conference is organized by Sakhrat Khizroev and Dmitri Litvinov, both of Seagate Research (Pittsburgh, Penn.), in cooperation with Joseph Ashkenazi and Joshua Cohn of the Physics Department of the University of Miami. Honorary co-chairs of the conference are Stan Charap of Carnegie Mellon University and S. Iwasaki of Tohoku University, Japan. An interna-

tional advisory board of 30 industry and academic leaders was assembled to develop the technical program. The complete list of the international advisory board is available at the conference Web site: <http://www.napmrc/organization.htm>.

The conference is sponsored by the University of Miami and endorsed or co-sponsored by the Materials Research Society, IEEE Magnetics Society, National Storage Industry Consortium, and four academic magnetics research centers (University of Minnesota, University of Alabama, University of California—San Diego, and Stanford University).

Additional information about the NAPMRC is available at the conference Web site at <http://www.napmrc.org>. □

## Supported by MRS and E-MRS

*a First Materials Science Forum on*



# MATERIALS SCIENCE FOR FUTURE SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGIES

*will take place at the*

**University of Augsburg, Germany**

**on September 17–20, 2002**

**Organizing Institutions:** AMU (Application Center for Materials and Environmental Research, Institute of Physics, University of Augsburg)  
WZU (Environmental Science Center, University of Augsburg)  
WEC (World Environment Center)  
IMU (Institute of Management & Environment)  
Bayern Innovativ (Technology Transfer Center)

**Topic:** An informative and at the same time strategic discussion meeting between **scientists, high-ranking industrial leaders, and politicians** is planned to **highlight the crucial role of materials science for the development and the implementation of sustainable technologies**. Based on the present state of affairs and the problems of a partly devastating utilization of resources, products, and fuel, new approaches and strategies for the design and production of sustainable and appropriate functional materials and efficient processes will be discussed. The aim of the meeting is the exchange of ideas and experiences on environmentally benign synthesis routes and utilization of materials by efficient and economically feasible process technologies.

The discussions during this meeting will be inspired by the newest political decisions of the Rio+10 world conference held in Johannesburg two weeks before.

**Contact:** <http://www.amu-augsburg.de/matforum>