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^2. 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 international 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. □

https://doi.org/10.1557/mrs2001.248 Published online by Cambridge University Press