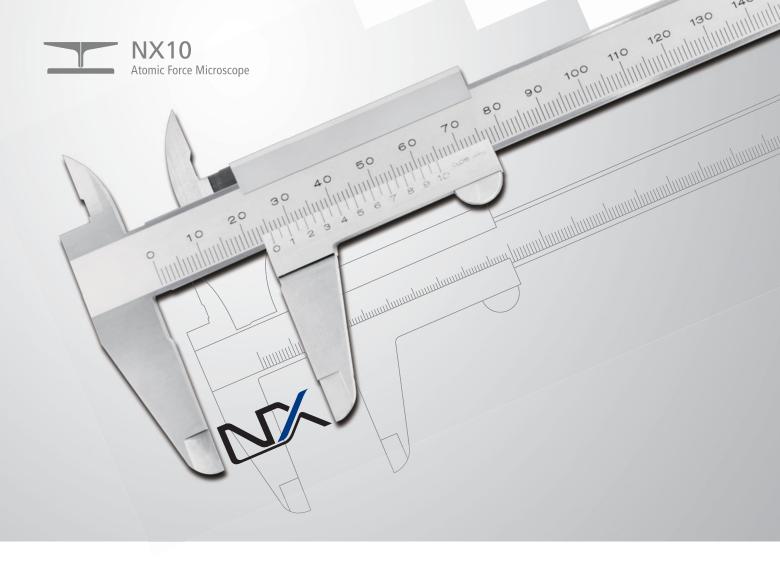


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ON THE COVER

Thermal-barrier coatings for more efficient gas-turbine engines. This issue of MRS Bulletin focuses on thermal-barrier coatings used in gas-turbine engines on metallic parts in the hottest regions, enabling the engines to operate at higher gas temperatures than their predecessors, thereby improving efficiency and power. The cover shows a cutaway section of a GP7200 jet engine manufactured by Engine Alliance, a joint venture of General Electric and Pratt & Whitney. (Image courtesy of Engine Alliance.) The inset (and background) is a scanning electron micrograph (orientation-dependent color) showing the top surface of a thermalbarrier coating deposited by the electron-

beam physical vapor process. (Micrograph courtesy of James Weaver, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University.) See the technical theme that begins on page 891.



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The Society's interdisciplinary approach differs from that of single-discipline professional societies because it promotes information exchange across the many technical fields touching materials development. MRS sponsors three major international annual meetings encompassing approximately 125 topical symposia, and also sponsors numerous single-topic scientific meetings. The Society recognizes professional and technical excellence and fosters technical interaction in local geographic regions through Sections and University Chapters.

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