GUEST EDITOR'S COMMENTS

LARRY R. FOREMAN

Los Alamos National Laboratory

Research in fabrication for inertial confinement fusion (ICF) comprises at least three broad categories: targets for high-energy density physics on existing drivers, ignition capsule fabrication, and cryogenic fuel layer formation. The latter two are being pursued primarily for the National Ignition Facility (NIF).

This issue of *Fusion Technology* is dedicated to the Twelfth Target Fabrication Specialists' Meeting (TFM '98), sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and held in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, April 19–23, 1998. More than 100 papers on all aspects of ICF target fabrication were presented at TFM '98; scientists from more than 14 laboratories, universities, and businesses contributed. It was an exciting meeting. The NIF is well along in construction, and photos of poured concrete and exposed steel added to the technical excitement. The 29 papers in this issue will add significantly to the *Fusion Technology* library on ICF fabrication (issues in Vols. 28 and 31 report on previous meetings). With the inclusion of this one, the three issues are more than a valuable desk reference for fabricators—they provide a useful metric for measuring the community's progress in all aspects of the field. It is clear from this issue that there has been significant progress toward the fabrication of an ignition target for NIF and that new techniques are resulting in higher-quality targets for high-energy density research. I expect that this issue, like its predecessors, will be heavily cited in future publications.

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