COMMENTS

I am extremely pleased that we are able to produce this issue of *Transactions of Fusion Technology* (*Trans. FT*), which contains key papers from the International Workshop on Physics and Technology of Tritium for Fusion Reactors, held in Varenna, Italy, September 6-14, 1993. The future success of fusion as an energy source will, among other things, strongly depend on our ability to properly handle tritium, both in the device itself and in the fuel cycle. As a consequence, a number of papers that deal with the various issues related to tritium technology have appeared in *Fusion Technology* (*FT*), and we have traditionally published the proceedings from the triennial Topical Meeting on Tritium Technology in Fission, Fusion, and Isotopic Applications [most recently, *FT*, **21**, *2*, Part 2 (Mar. 1992)]. In further recognition of the importance of tritium technology to fusion, the renowned International School of Plasma Physics "Piero Caldirola" dedicated a special workshop meeting to this topic. This international school is well known for having hosted a number of pioneering workshops and courses on advanced topics in fusion physics and technology. We were most pleased that the organizers of the International Workshop on Physics and Technology of Tritium for Fusion Reactors agreed to select key papers for publication in *Trans. FT*. While ordinarily not a strict requirement of *Trans. FT*, papers selected for this issue underwent a peer review process organized by the guest editors.

In addition to several overview papers, very important new results are presented in key areas, ranging from tritium recovery from various fusion blanket designs to tritiated water processing. Important lessons learned from operational experience at the Savannah River Site concerned with isotope separation and general handling procedures are also provided.

I wish to thank the organizing committee of the workshop for their help and cooperation in the preparation of this publication. Members of that committee include E. Sindoni (University of Milano/International School of Plasma Physics), G. Bonizzoni and F. Ghezzi [Italian Research Council (CNR), Institute of Plasma Physics, Milano], G. Raffaldi (Centro Innovazione Lecco), and D. Pifferetti (Centro di Cultura Villa Monastero).

Dr. Elio Sindoni and Dr. Giovanni Bonizzoni served as the guest editors of this issue. In addition to their effort in organizing the papers, they provided considerable help in the review process. As they indicate in the Preface, the workshop itself was very successful and enjoyed a strong attendance. The workshop had as its main objective a discussion of the environmental health ahd safety concerns associated with the need to develop a well-tested and technically valid fuel cycle. Judging from the papers in this issue, this objective was well met.

George Miley