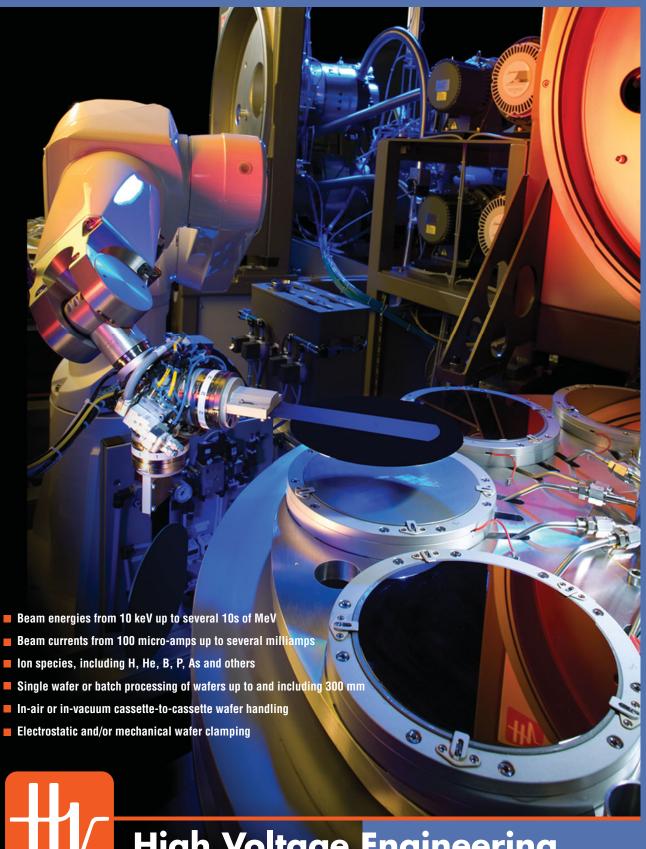


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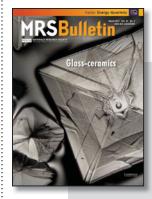


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Change is inevitable; change is constant

Gopal R. Rao



ON THE COVER

Glass-ceramics contain one or more crystalline phases dispersed in a residual glass phase. The articles in this issue of MRS Bulletin highlight property combinations in glass-ceramics relevant to distinct applications. There are several overarching themes in common, including the proper selection of bulk composition to allow for crystallization of desired phases. Innovative applications of glass-ceramics owe their importance and continuing

interest to hard-to-combine properties. The micrograph on the cover shows the result of devitrification of a supercooled CaO-MgO-SiO₂ liquid during cooling. The pyramid-shaped crystals are ~1.5 mm in size and are embedded in residual glass. The micrograph was taken at the Vitreous Materials Laboratory of the Federal University of São Carlos, Brazil, by Eduardo B. Ferreira and Raphael M.C.V. Reis. See the technical theme that appears on page 195.



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The Society's interdisciplinary approach differs from that of single-discipline professional societies because it promotes information exchange across many scientific and technical fields touching materials development. MRS conducts three major international annual meetings and also sponsors numerous single-topic scientific meetings. The Society recognizes professional and technical excellence and fosters technical interaction through University Chapters. In the international arena, MRS implements bilateral projects with partner organizations to benefit the worldwide materials community. The Materials Research Society Foundation helps the Society advance its mission by supporting various projects and initiatives.

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