

## **Review on the 17th International Forging Congress in Cologne Meeting Point of the International Forging Industry**

At the invitation of EUROFORGE, the European federation of the nine national European forging associations, the **17. IFC 2002** took place in Cologne between 6th and 9th June 2002.

**500 delegates from 25 countries** made use of the congress to update themselves on the latest trends in their industry, to exchange ideas with leaders of the international forging industry and to make and renew contacts.

The Congress began on 6th June with a visit by all participants to Dusseldorf to the "**METAV 2002**" international trade fair for production technology and automation. After a reception by the **METAV President, Herr Dr. Elsinghorst**, the congress participants visited the special exhibition of "**High-tech Forging**" - toolmaking, secondary operations and automation.

The **conference programme** in Cologne on 7th and 8th June had been prepared by an international programme commission. Future strategy and reports on the latest developments in the industry formed the main presentation topics.

Following on from the congress, **200 participants visited 28 leading forging companies** in six different European countries.

Further highlights of the congress were an "**Information and Communication Forum for young engineers**" and lecturers and college teachers from the whole of Europe, and the founding of „**ForgeNet International**“, an information and communication network in which all the national forging associations of the world are involved.

Great interest was also shown in the exhibition „**Forged Stainless-steel Sculptures**“ by Jan Köthe.

The conference proceedings can be ordered from Dr. Lutz Tutmann, e-mail [ltutmann@euroforge.org](mailto:ltutmann@euroforge.org) at a price of €20,00 plus postage and packing.

The **18. IFC 2005** will take place in **Nagoya/Japan** in 2005.