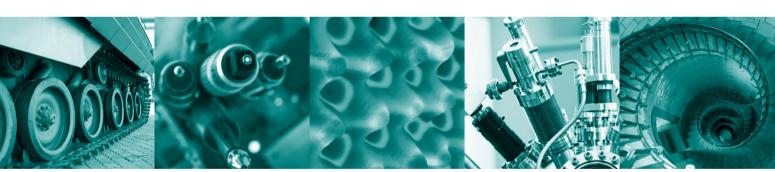


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I am pleased to hand over to PT Readers the next issue of Archives of Materials Science and Engineering with the hope that the reading of papers contained in it will be interesting and invite PT authors to publish their works in next issues. I do recommend a scientific paper presented below.







The paper written by K. Labisz, Z. Rdzawski and M. Pawlyta on "Microstructure evaluation of long-term aged binary Ag-Cu alloy" on a page 15 presents microstructure investigation results of the long aged Ag-Cu alloy used for monetary production to determine the microstructural phase changes after 30 year ageing time. An aspect of the investigation was the possibility of spinodal decomposition process occurrence. Authors employed wide range of metallographic techniques including the light microscope, SEM, TEM with different image techniques. The performed investigations of the microstructure evaluation of the Ag-Cu alloy, carried out using SEM, TEM as well as the light optical microscopy throw new light on the influence of long term natural ageing process on the silver-copper matrix with Ag and Cu precipitations inside the $\mbox{Ag}\alpha$ and $\mbox{Cu}\beta$ matrix phase. One of the most important factors beside the initial mechanical deformation in form of forging was the decompositional process leading to an ordered placement of the Ag and Cu precipitations, having also influence on strengthening of this alloy. As an implication for practice use there is the possibility of application of long term ageing for mechanical properties improvement by natural ageing method. Also the comparison of microstructure change and deformation after long term ageing can deliver a new scientific view on the processes occurred in the microstructure over a long time period - spinodal decomposition can act as its example.