

**Speech of Pr. Alexandre Dolgui, General Scientific Chair for the Welcome cocktail
May 16, 2006**

Monsieur le Vice-président du Conseil Générale de la Loire
Monsieur le Vice-président du Saint Etienne Métropole
Monsieur le Directeur,
Mesdames et Messieurs,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

If you look around you in this historical building you can see that St Etienne, department of Loire and School of Mines have had a role in the history of industry and manufacturing. That is why it is appropriate that they host our symposium.

It is with a great pleasure that I welcome you, in these beautiful surroundings, to INCOM'06.

Un grand merci à
Monsieur le Maire de Saint Etienne,
Monsieur le Vice-président du Conseil Générale de la Loire
Monsieur le Vice-président du Saint Etienne Métropole
Monsieur le Directeur de l'Ecole des Mines

for having us here tonight. Without your support INCOM would not be possible.

This marks a wonderful debut for our symposium. I think the best way to understand INCOM06 will be to experience it during the next 72 hours.

As scientific chair, I have been honored to see INCOM06 begin as an idea and become one of the major international scientific and industrial events in the World this year. 57 countries are represented via the contributors, with about 800 attendees, 17 associated scientific journals, all the professional associations IFAC, IFIP, IFORS, IEEE, IMS, etc. make this event so important.

Here at INCOM, in St Etienne, France, we will do our Best to assure that your stay be agreeable, productive and memorable.

Excellent symposium to you!