



2011 International Conference on Powder Metallurgy & Particulate Materials

May 18-21
San Francisco Marriott Marquis
San Francisco, CA

Held in conjunction with:



2011 International Conference on Tungsten, Refractory & Hardmaterials VIII

Dates to Remember

PowderMet2011
May 18-21, 2011

Advance Registration Deadline
April 8, 2011

For Speakers:

Draft Manuscript E-mailed to Session Chairman
March 1-25, 2011

Final Manuscript Submission Deadline
April 15, 2011



METAL POWDER INDUSTRIES FEDERATION
APMI INTERNATIONAL

VISA INFORMATION

Most travelers entering the U.S. must obtain a visa. APPLY FOR A VISA EARLY!

As soon as you know you will be traveling to the United States, request your letter of invitation and make your appointment for a visa interview. Wait times for a visa interview can be several weeks or more in many countries, especially during peak travel periods, such as the summer months. We strongly urge you to request your letter of invitation to attend PowderMet2011 as soon as possible!

For all U.S. Visa information, including how to apply for a visa, visa wait times for an interview appointment, locate an Embassy worldwide, find out how to make an interview appointment, pay the visa application fee, and much more, go to: http://travel.state.gov/visa/visa_1750.html

Visa Waiver Program

The [Visa Waiver Program](#) (VWP) enables nationals of certain countries to travel to the United States for tourism or business for stays of 90 days or less without obtaining a visa. For a list of VWP countries, [click here](#).

IMPORTANT: ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) REQUIRED - All nationals or citizens of Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries who plan to travel to the United States under the VWP are now REQUIRED to receive an authorization through ESTA prior to boarding a U.S.-bound airplane or vessel. ESTA is an automated system that determines the eligibility of visitors to travel to the U.S. under the Visa Waiver Program. The ESTA application collects the same information collected on Form I-94W. ESTA applications can be submitted online at anytime prior to travel, though it is recommended travelers apply when they begin preparing travel plans. For more information and to submit your application go to:

http://cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/id_visa/esta/ or
http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without_1990.html

Visa Interview Tips

If you require a visa to enter the United States, these steps may make your visa interview process easier:

- **Request a letter of invitation from MPIF by contacting Susan Wright at swright@mpif.org or fax: 609-987-8523.** You must provide the following information: your full name, date of birth, passport number and complete mailing address, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address. After your request is processed, an electronic copy of the letter will be e-mailed to you and the paper copy of the letter will be mailed. Remember also that all travel costs associated with conference participation, including transportation, hotel, and meal expenses are the responsibility of the individual participant/speaker and not of the conference organizers.
- **Schedule an appointment with your embassy as soon as you receive your invitation letter.** Make your appointment early as wait times can be long in some countries. You need to allow enough time for the interview and any additional processing that may be required. Bring your letter of invitation with you to the interview.
- **Verify fees and requirements.** Go to http://travel.state.gov/visa/visa_1750.html to find out about visa fees and the method of payment accepted by the embassy or consulate. This Web site also has other important information about the visa process.
- **Complete all official documents.** Answer all questions completely. Do not use "n.a." or "Not Applicable" in your forms. If the answer is in the negative, use "no" or "none."
- **Show proof of "strong ties" that bind you to your country of residence.** The consular officers conducting the visa interview look for proof that you will return to your country. Evidence of "strong ties" include proof of business ownership, or employment, social and family relationships.
- **If you have traveled to the U.S. previously, provide documentation demonstrating you returned to your country on time (i.e., an airline boarding pass).** Show proof that you returned within the timeframe you stated. For example, use an airline boarding pass that shows your return flight or meeting materials that indicate you attended a business conference.
- **With your application, include any materials that MPIF may have sent you in connection with the PowderMet2011 conference.** Provide any printed conference materials to show that PowderMet2011 is a legitimate event. In addition, if you are a speaker, bring a copy of your presentation acceptance information.
- **Questions or problems with your visa application?** Contact your local embassy or consulate where your visa application was adjudicated. They will have the information to answer your questions and solve any problems you may have.

Getting a visa is easier if you are prepared. Interviews typically last a few minutes and the questions are related to confirming your travel plans and ties to your home country. Remember, wait times can be long for visa processing. Get your letter of invitation and make your appointment as soon as possible