The International Symposium on Coal Combustion (ISCC) was originally conceived by Tsinghua University in 1987 and now becomes one of the most effective forums every four year, aiming at clean coal energy, global warming, low-carbon technology, etc.

The 8th Symposium, hosted by the Institute of Thermal Engineering of Tsinghua University, was successfully held at Beijing, China, in July 19–22, 2015. The symposium covered the latest results of research and development (R&D) on the clean coal combustion, conversion, and utilization from both academia and industry.

In the 8th ISCC, the colloquium chair system has been started to improve the scientific and technical quality of the conference. The renewed International Advisory Committee consists of 52 well-known scholars and experts from 14 countries (25 Chinese and 27 foreigners). After review and selection, 196 technical papers were divided into 5 keynotes, 121 oral presentations, and 70 posters were accepted. Among them, about 20 top rank fundamental papers were further submitted to a special issue of FUEL, one of the leading journals in this field. More than 200 delegates attended the symposium from 13 countries, including USA, Germany, UK, Canada, Japan, Korea, Australia, Russia, Sweden, and Poland. Compared to the previous symposiums, more industrial colleagues were present with high interests. Twelve domestic and foreign research institutions, universities, and foundations as well as enterprises as sponsors or co-sponsors provided their supports to the symposium.

The proceedings of the 8th ISCC collect 2 invited plenary speeches (partially in abstracts) and 93 technical papers presented orally and in poster, and are divided into the following parts including the number of papers:

- Basic Coal Quality and Combustion/17
- Pulverized Coal Combustion/15
- Fluidized Bed Combustion/12
- Special for CO₂ Issues-CCS/8
- Emission Characteristics and Controls/22
- Industrial Application and Coal Use/19

The proceedings can serve as a platform for scientists, engineers, graduate students, and equipment manufactures and operators, as well as technical managers to exchange their opinions and ideas in the field of science and technology of coal combustion, gasification, and pollutants and CO₂ emissions.

We would like to acknowledge our members of the International Advisory Committee who devoted their time and energy to review the manuscripts, and to express our appreciation to Dr. Qiang Li of Tsinghua University Press for his effort in publishing the proceedings.

Beijing, China

Guangxi Yue

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