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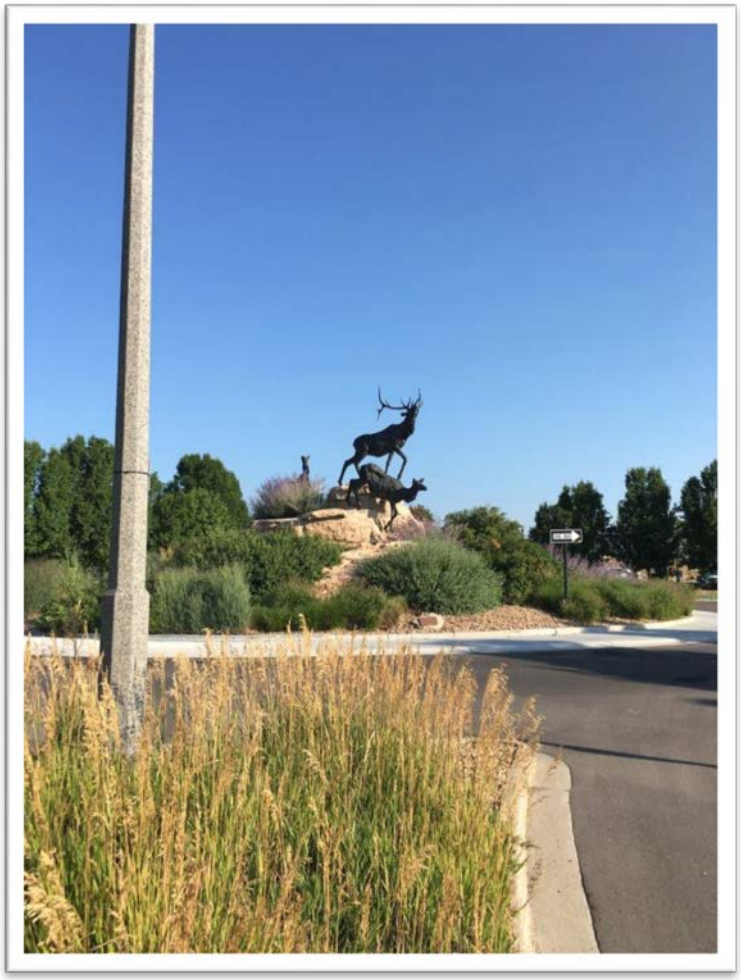

Denver X-ray Conference 2018

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The 67th annual Denver X-ray Conference (DXC) was held from August 6 – 10 in Westminster, Colorado, USA. Located about 15 km northwest of the state capitol Denver, aka the Mile High City, Westminster's elevation is also about 1600 meters. The profile of the Rocky Mountains that can clearly be seen in the distance was incorporated into the conference logo.

Almost 300 experts from both academia and industry from 20 countries attended DXC this year. The conference began with workshops and evening poster sessions on the first two days. Four Rigaku employees (two from Rigaku Americas, two from Japan) were invited to participate as workshop instructors to cover topics such as two-dimensional detectors, Rietveld refinement, and quantitative and trace XRF analysis.

At the poster sessions, Rigaku presented work performed using the MiniFlex benchtop diffractometer with a new two-dimensional detector and a temperature control attachment, and analysis of trace elements in waste water using the NANOHUNTER II benchtop TXRF spectrometer. Congratulations to all the Best Poster Award winners, including Best XRD Student Poster awarded to Meiji University for work characterizing the physicochemical properties of radioactive cesium-137 in geological materials using the Rigaku RINT- TTRIII diffractometer.

The plenary session, held at the halfway point of the conference, started with the presentation of the prestigious Birks Award for scientific achievements and contributions to the field of X-ray spectrometry to Professor Christina Streli of TU Wien Atominstitut, Austria, who was also a co-organizer of the XRF trace analysis workshop. The Robert L. Snyder Student Travel Grant Awards were then presented to seven recipients from Mexico, India

and the United States. The two keynote lectures that followed showed how XRD analysis of Pompeian ceramics can shed light on the habits, culture and technological capabilities of the ancient Romans, and showcased various X-ray analysis techniques used for mineralogical research in museums.

At the oral sessions, Rigaku presented various application examples of the nano3DX high-resolution, high-contrast 3D X-ray microscope, the latest work on total quantification of Mg alloys using the ZSX Primus IV WDXRF spectrometer, and quantitative phase analysis of low crystallinity components by the direct derivation method.

Thanks to everybody who attended the conference, especially to all who visited our booths, attended the “Lunch and Learn” and showed interest in our presentations. We hope to see you again at next year’s conference in Chicago.