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ON THE COVER

CVD diamond—Research, applications, and challenges. This issue of *MRS Bulletin* introduces the latest research, recent applications, and the challenges ahead for chemical vapor deposited (CVD) diamond films. The advent of thin nanocrystalline CVD diamond (NCD) films has unlocked a whole new research field. Based on the unique properties of diamond, a versatile range of new applications is currently being studied. The cover image shows

a series of ultrathin NCD membranes, 150 nm thick and 550 μ m wide, fabricated in the middle of a Hall bar structure and supported by a glass substrate, under differential pressures. The top 50 nm of these structures are heavily boron-doped, making them conducting and suitable as pressure sensors for harsh environments based on the piezoresistive effect, leading to resistance changes as a function of the pressure applied to the membrane. The differential pressures under the membrane vary from 0 bar in the top image to 0.55 bar in the bottom image. See the technical theme that begins on page **490**.



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