

Editorial

Perhaps next to medical systems, it is aeronautical systems which make uncompromising demands and emphasis on safety and performance, be it for civil or military operations.

Aeronautical systems are multidisciplinary and airframe structures are constantly revisited for health monitoring and exploring avenues for analysis and application of frontier materials and processes. Seminars and Conferences essentially provide a forum for dissemination of knowledge and wisdom amongst the persons from Academic Institutions, R & D Laboratories, Industries and user services towards progressive application of the findings for pushing the performance, be it for improved efficiency or life extension. Towards this objective the publication of the Special Issue in the dedicated Professional Journals assume significance in enhancing the search for quality and readership.

The present issue is a Special Issue brought out as a culminating exercise of 18th National Seminar on Aerospace Structures (NASAS) - 2014. The selected papers cover the areas such as Structural Analysis, Newer Materials and Ageing Aircraft, all pertaining to Military Aircraft which itself interestingly is the platform for harnessing the innovative and potential technologies. It is appropriate that the Seminar was conducted having Scientists from a premier Research and Development Laboratory, namely, the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) which has the track record of having conducted full scale structural life studies of a few Combat Aircraft. Rightly, it was held at an Academic Institution to pool the explorative knowledge gained in the academia. Besides these it was at a place which is the citadel of Combat Aircraft maintenance and allied user needs.

At the Journal Publication, the support rendered by Smt Chandrika R Krishnan and Mr R Hemant Kumar is revealing in the excellent collating, formatting and perhaps nearly zero error in the proof reading. It is earnestly the feeling that the Special Issue will make the authors and participants a satisfying reading and more enthusiastic in their endeavours for the next NASAS.

Editorial Committee for Special Issue :

Dr Shylaja Srihari
Centre for Societal Missions and Special
Technologies (CSMST)
CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL)
Kodihalli Post, HAL Airport Road
Bangalore

Dr R Balasubramaniam
Editor
Journal of Aerospace Sciences & Technologies
The Aeronautical Society of India
Bangalore

Dr CM Manjunatha
Structural Technologies Division (STTD)
CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL)
Kodihalli Post, HAL Airport Road
Bangalore

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Journal of Aerospace Sciences & Technologies
The Aeronautical Society of India
Bangalore

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The Aeronautical Society of India
Bangalore

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Rustom-II Programme
Aeronautical Development Establishment
Bangalore