

PREFACE

International Journal of Engineering and Technology Innovation

Special Issue on “Advances in Manufacturing Technology”

The manufacturing sector of a country is a key indicator of its economic development and growth. Manufacturing is an important activity that creates jobs, produces goods and materials required by every society, and is also a source from which a significant amount of a nation's wealth and technological development is generated. In last few decades this industry has become globally competitive, which has resulted in manufacturing organisations facing significant challenges such as handling cost pressures, designing sustainable processes and products, and adapting to constantly changing consumer needs and expectations. This has prompted scientists, engineers, researchers, and academics to develop a diverse range of technologies to aid manufacturing organisations in their arduous quest for survival and sustainable growth. This special issue of the International Journal of Engineering and Technology Innovation (IJETI) entitled “Advances in Manufacturing Technology” presents some of the latest technological developments in the manufacturing arena. It includes extended versions of selected papers presented at the 27th International Conference in Manufacturing Research (ICMR) in Aston, Birmingham, UK, 11-13 September 2012, as well as other contributions from leading researchers and academics. The specific topics covered in this special issue include advances in:

- Manufacturing management, production systems and optimisation
- Manufacturing processes and technologies
- Product design and development
- Information systems and technologies

The guest editors and the IJETI hope that this special issue will make a good reference material and be of great use for engineers, researchers, and academics in the area of manufacturing.

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