



## Editorial

## CompTest 2015 – Composites testing and model identification international conference, 8–10 April 2015 in Madrid, Spain



The 7th International Conference on Composites Testing and Model Identification also known as CompTest 2015 was held at the IMDEA Materials Institute (Madrid, Spain) during April 8–10 in 2015. This conference was a relevant meeting point where reputed scientists and engineers working in testing, characterization, modeling and simulation of structural composites shared their ideas in a three-day conference.

As in the previous conferences, the objectives of CompTest 2015 were twofold. Firstly, to promote the interaction between modeling and experimentation, thus, covering the full range testing activities where models are identified and validated. Secondly, to put forward new and innovative experimental techniques such as 2D and 3D digital image correlation, optical fibers, thermography, and tomography that can be used to improve the current testing methodologies to be applied to composite materials. The single session format of the conference was very useful to provide an informal and focused scientific exchange on the different topics.

Previous conferences of this series were held in Châlons en Champagne (France) in 2003, Bristol (UK) in 2004, Porto (Portugal) 2006, Dayton (USA) 2008, Lausanne (Switzerland) in 2011 and Aalborg (Denmark) in 2013. The relevant information, abstracts and slides of the presentations of the conference can be found in the conference web page at <http://comptest2015.org/>.

The conference technical programme included a total 52 oral presentations organized in 11 sessions dedicated to the different topics “Test methods – Design”, “Test methods – Property measurement I”, “Damage and failure mechanics”, “Fracture”, “Test methods – Property measurement II”, “Micromechanics”, “Delamination – Parameter identification”, “Delamination – Modelling”, “Material Models”, “Fatigue” and “Impact”. Three excellent invited lectures were given during the conference. First, Dr. José Sánchez (Head of Composite Materials in Airbus), gave an industrial-point-of-view presentation on “Present and future of composite materials in the civil aeronautical industry”. Secondly, two additional lectures from academia were given by Prof. Stepan Lomov from the University of Leuven (Belgium) on the “Cluster analysis of acoustic emission signals for 2d and 3d woven carbon and glass fiber/epoxy composites” and Prof. Endel Larve from University of Dayton Research Institute (US) on “Laminated Composites: Modeling and Validation”.

Very good technical discussions took place in the regular sessions but also during the coffee breaks, meals and around the

poster presentation stands. The best student presentation and the best poster were awarded at the end of the conference to Jens Glud (Aalborg University) and Ahmed Wagih (University of Girona), respectively. The social programme was also very good with a visit of the Old Madrid (Madrid of the Austrians) where the conference dinner was held. More details can be found at <http://comptest2015.org/>. With a total of 78 worldwide participants, CompTest 2015 can be considered a success following the stream of the previous conferences.

We would like to acknowledge all those people without whose help we would not be able to make CompTest 2015 possible. In particular, to the scientific committee to help to review abstracts and promote the event and to the local organizing committee formed by Dr. Juan José Vilatela, Dr. Roberto Guzmán de Villoria, Dr. Deyi Wang, Dr. Federico Sket, Dr. Jon Molina, Mrs. Francisca Martínez, Mr. Fernando Naya, Mr. Miguel Herráez, Mr. Alejandro García, Mr. Momchil Jeliakov and Mr. Peyman Mouri and the secretariat Ms. Mariana Huerta.

A selection of invited papers to be part of this special issue was carried out following the published extended abstracts and the corresponding conference presentations. The authors were asked to submit full-length papers leading to the acceptance of 10 papers after completing the normal review process according to the standards of the journal. The topics of the papers covered the variety of themes exposed during the conference.

Finally, during CompTest 2015, it was decided that CompTest 2017 will be organized by the Composite Material Group of the University of Leuven (Belgium) next 5–7 April 2017 (<https://www.mtm.kuleuven.be/Onderzoek/Composites/comptest2017>). We wish them a great success in the organization of the conference.

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