## **PREFACE**

The contents of this issue reflect the rapid advances that have taken place in materials science and engineering, prompted by the demand for high quality performance materials by industry.

The contributions represent some of the latest developments in the field of Materials Characterisation, describing procedures for the assessment of physical and chemical properties of materials by experimental and computational methods. Apart from microstructural and macro-mechanical investigations on metallic substances, extensive coverage is also given to composites, biomaterials, polymers, ceramics and cementitious materials as well as to the effectiveness of various surface treatments. The wide range of topics includes interaction between disciplines, which is sometimes essential to achieving a proper understanding of material behaviour.

All issues, including this one, have been published in paper as well as digital format and are being widely distributed throughout the world

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