

Preface

Dear distinguished delegates, guests and readers of this book.

The International Conference “Engineering for Environment Protection – TOP“ is, according to reports from experts in this field, the most important conference focusing on techniques and technologies of environmental protection. The conference started was first held in 1995. The main founders, initiators and organizers were employees of the Department of Production Engineering (now ÚSETM), at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, in close cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment SR, stakeholders, the Association of cities and towns, and the Recycling Fund. The International Program committee and the Scientific committee are the authorities of the conference guaranteeing its high professional level. It is very pleasing to note that Mechanical Engineering plays such an important role in Environmental Protection.

For 21 years the conference has been a focal point for this important and interesting scientific meeting, providing an opportunity for the exchange of practical experiences, and to learn about the best technologies available and the latest hi-tech scientific knowledge. The main aim and focus of the conference is to provide the latest theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of monitoring, information Systems, and of minimizing the generation of waste, its treatment, recovery, and disposal. At the latest conference the topics of discussion focused on the treatment of old vehicles, the recovery of material and energy from their waste, renewable sources of energy, municipal waste handling and treatment, waste management legislation, and others.

Finally, we would like to thank the organizing committee for its valuable and unrelenting work even outside of working hours, and we would also like to thank the scientific committee for its valuable expertise, advice, and chairing activities during the conference. Last but not least, we would like to give our thanks to our sponsors for their contributions to this successful edition of the TOP 2015 as a special conference issue journal *Applied Mechanics and Materials*.

With our warmest and most sincere regards,

Prof. Lubomír Šooš, PhD.
Assoc. Prof. Juraj Beniak, PhD.

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Ľubomír Šooš

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