

# Preface

The International Congress on Polymers in Concrete has been the leading congress worldwide in the interactive fields on concrete-polymer composites for more than 30 years. Following 13 successful congresses held in London (1975), Austin (1978), Koriyama (1981), Darmstadt (1984), Brighton (1987), Shanghai (1990), Moscow (1992), Oostende (1995), Bologna (1998), Honolulu (2001), Berlin (2004), Chuncheon (2007) and Funchal (2010), the 14<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Polymers in Concrete (ICPIC 2013) is held again in Shanghai, a city which is known as the most comprehensive industrial and commercial metropolis in China.

Researchers from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Iran, Italy, Japan, Korea, Kosovo, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Spain, USA and other countries and regions show their great interest on the congress. About 180 researchers from these countries contributed their recent works to ICPIC 2013. Eight keynotes are delivered by the well known scientists from all over the world. All aspects of polymers in concrete including the innovative studies as well as past successful experiences are discussed on the congress.

Concrete-polymer composites have attracted people's attention in many industries for their excellent physical and mechanical properties and durability. 80 papers from ICPIC 2013 are included in this special volume on the following topics: materials, mix proportion design and properties of concrete-polymer composites; their characterization methods, their application and other special aspects. In these papers the authors are trying to answer what is essential in concrete-polymer composites, how to make it better for the given project and how to achieve sustainable building materials eventually. All the papers published here were carefully reviewed. We hope the readers will get useful information from this book in their future work.

Here, we wish to acknowledge the authors for their contributions and their cooperative and timely submission of the papers during our preparations. We are also indebted to all reviewers for their earnest work.

Ru Wang and Zhenghong Yang  
Tongji University, Shanghai

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