

## Preface

The present volume contains selected papers from the 11th International Manufacturing Conference in China (IMCC 2004). The conference is organized by Shandong University.

IMCC is a bi-annual conference inaugurated in 1983. This series international conference has been conducted for ten times over the past two decades, all with great success. The past ten IMCC conferences were held in Guangzhou (twice), Wuhan, Nanjing, Bejing, Harbin, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Xiamen. They have provided excellent platforms for participants to exchange their new ideas and have brought forth new research opportunities and collaborations. With the support of National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), the IMCC 2004 sponsored by Shandong Binzhou Bohai Piston Co. Ltd, Shandong Mechanized Construction Co. and Logistics Research Center at Shandong University will be held in Jinan, China, during September 18-20, 2004.

This collection presents a selection from more than 600 papers submitted to the conference from universities and industries. All of the papers were subjected to peer reviewing by at least two expert referees. The papers have been selected for this volume because of their quality and the fact that they cover the main topics of the conference. The volume tends to present to the readers the recent advances in the filed of materials manufacturing technology.

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