

From the Editor-in-Chief

This issue is devoted to a quite new scientific and engineering topic – up to now not treated in the papers published in our journal *Thermal Science* – investigation of thermal processes in internal combustion engines. This decision of the Editorial board was initiated by a quite large number of papers submitted for publication dealing with those problems, and particularly oriented towards the use of biofuels. In order to encounter in one issue different connected problems and processes in internal combustion engines, as one of the very important thermal machine, Editorial board asked distinguished experts Prof. Dragoslava Stojiljković and Prof. Stojan Petrović, to be Guest editors, and to make a more wide choice of problems and processes and to persuade researchers from different countries dealing with those topics to present their results in this issue.

At the same time, Editorial board and Guest editors had in mind that traffic and transportation, as well as internal combustion engines, are the major consumers of the expensive liquid fossil fuels, having greatest impact on the environment, as well as the greatest contribution to the fast consumption of the limited resources of natural oil. Improvement of the energy efficiency of the internal combustion engines is inevitable part of the activity to achieve sustainable energy system.

Fast development of transportation in South-East European countries, having in mind also that this is a region in which many international traffic corridors are crossing, makes problem of energy efficient and environmentally acceptable design and exploitation of the internal combustion engines, and in particular the use of alternative fuels and biofuels, extremely important for the countries of this region.

We believe that this issue will make a significant contribution in achieving this goal.

I am very grateful to the Guest editors for their extremely competent choice of the topics and papers, and for their efforts to collect so large number of the prominent experts, and persuading them to prepare contributions for this issue. This was extremely difficult and time consuming job, which Prof. Dragoslava Stojiljković and Prof. Stojan Petrović did in an excellent way, and in a very short time. I am extremely grateful to them both for this excellent job.

According to the interests of readers, and already evident respectable number of papers submitted for publication, we can expect that this topic – processes in internal combustion engines – especially problems of energy efficiency, emission control, and use of alternative fuels and biofuels will be very soon again the subject of one of the next issues of the journal *Thermal Science*.

The complex knowledge required to solve problems in internal combustion engines is a challenge both for scientists and engineers, and a good area for their joint activity which is also evident in the character of the papers presented in this issue.

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Prof. Simeon Oka, Ph. D.
Editor-in-Chief