
Editorial

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Welcome to the *Int. J. Industrial and Systems Engineering*'s Special Issue on 'Industrial Engineering and Operations Management'. The first International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Operations Management held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, 9–10 January 2010. Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE), Institute for Operations Research and the Management Science (INFORMS), IEOM Forum, Bangladesh Society of Mechanical Engineers, Lawrence Technological University, Southfield, Michigan and Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman have cosponsored the conference. Local

organiser of the conference was Bangladesh Society of Mechanical Engineers. The conference aims to provide a forum for academics, researchers and practitioners to exchange ideas and recent developments in the field of Industrial Engineering and Operations Management. The conference has provided an international forum to foster networking, collaboration and joint effort among the conference participants to advance the theory and practice as well as to identify major trends in Industrial Engineering and Operations Management. Contributions are from 29 different countries around the world: Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Finland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Oman, Pakistan, Philippine, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, UAE, UK and USA.

We have four keynote speakers from USA, Canada, Oman and Bangladesh with different perspectives of Industrial Engineering and Operations Management. Dr. Sabbir Ahmed from the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA has provided his speech on 'Current trends in operations research'. Dr. Abdur Rahim from the Business School of University of New Brunswick, Canada talked about 'Operations management, quality management and supply chain management: an integrated approach'. Dr. Tasneem Pervez from Sultan Qaboos University, Oman has given talk on 'Accreditation of engineering education: option or necessity'. Mr. Abdul Muktadir, Managing Director of Incepta Pharmaceuticals, Dhaka, Bangladesh has given inspiration speech on operational excellence, their business success stories and pointed out chronology of Pharmaceutical Industry of Bangladesh with future export prospects.

About 201 papers were accepted for presentation at the conference and publication in the conference proceedings. They were organised in 30 sessions with 5 parallel sessions. Those published proceedings articles were later reviewed for possible extension and inclusion in this Special Issue. Authors of 24 of the papers were invited to submit extended versions of their work for possible publication in the Special Issue of *Int. J. Industrial and Systems Engineering*. The rigorous blind-refereeing process is done for the submitted manuscripts. Based on this review process, 14 papers were accepted for publication in this Special Issue. Topics addressed in this issue include on reliability, modelling and simulation, Kanban system, productivity, outsourcing, maintenance, supply chain, inventory, forecast, total quality management, quality function deployment, dysfunction mode and effects critical analysis, line balancing in apparel industries, facility location selection, selection of industrial robots and engineering education.

The conference committee would like to express their appreciation to the authors for submitting and sharing the results of their research and to all the referees for the tremendous effort. We would like to thank Professor Angappa Gunasekaran (the editor of *IJISE*) for giving us the opportunity to prepare this Special Issue.