Editorial

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Biographical notes: J. Paulo Davim received his PhD degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1997, MSc degree in Mechanical Engineering (Materials and Manufacturing Processes) in 1991, Mechanical Engineering degree (five years) in 1986, from the University of Porto (FEUP), Aggregate title (Full Habilitation) from the University of Coimbra in 2005 and DSc from London Metropolitan University in 2013. He is Eur Ing by FEANI-Brussels and Senior Chartered Engineer by the Portuguese Institution of Engineers with an MBA and Specialist title in Engineering and Industrial Management. Currently, he is a Professor at the Department of Mechanical Engineering of the University of Aveiro, Portugal. He has more than 30 years of teaching and research experience in manufacturing, materials, mechanical and industrial engineering with special emphasis in machining and tribology. He has also interest in management, engineering education and higher education for sustainability.

Currently, it is possible to define composite materials as "engineered materials made from two or more constituent materials with significantly different physical or chemical properties which remain separate and distinct on a macroscopic level within the finished structure." In recent times, the use of composites has been augmented in numerous areas of science and technology due to their exceptional mechanical and physical properties. Therefore, composites have the potential to substitute conventional materials in several fields of application such as automotive, aeronautical, aerospace and biomedical as well as in other areas in advanced industries.

The purpose of this special issue is to present a collection of examples illustrating some developments of composite materials (fabrication, engineering and applications).

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