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Preface

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Preface

This volume of *Advanced Composite Materials* is published as a special issue for selected papers presented at the Ninth US–Japan Conference on Composite Materials, which was held on 3–4 July 2000 in Mishima, Japan. The conference was arranged by the Organizing Committee of the Japan Society for Composite Materials (JSCM), in cooperation with the US Organizing Committee and the American Society for Composites (ASC). The success of the conference was mainly due to the dedication of the co-chairpersons, Professor Hiroshi Fukuda (Science University of Tokyo) and Dr. Takashi Ishikawa (National Aerospace Laboratory).

Since the first conference, which was held in January 1981 in Tokyo, this conference has been held every 2 or 3 years alternately in the United States and in Japan, in order to present up-to-date research accomplishments and to promote mutual understanding between researchers in the two countries.

The papers presented at this conference covered research and development in all areas of composite materials and structures. In particular, we focused on the following subjects at this conference: (1) low-cost composite structures, (2) composites for infrastructures, and (3) smart and intelligent composites, since these subjects are of current interest among researchers and are expected to develop further in the 21st century. A total of 111 papers including 21 poster presentations were given at the conference. Some selected papers are gathered in this issue and in the following issue, to show recent advances in composite research in the United States and Japan.

NOBUO TAKEDA

Editor-in-Chief

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