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## Special Issue Foreword

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The Asian Office of Aerospace Research and Development (AOARD) organizes and sponsors international advanced technology workshops and symposia in the Pacific Rim countries to promote research in cutting edge technologies. Recent technology emphasis has been in such areas as advanced materials, microelectronics and biorobotics. In addition to advanced composites, thin-film coatings and micro-electro-mechanical systems, research addressing new methods in *Materials Design* is one of the many technology frontiers that our parent organization, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), AFMC is interested in. Of particular emphasis is the application of these technologies relative to the support of more affordable and sustainable future aircraft and aerospace systems.

Through such technology workshops and symposia, AFOSR fosters the expeditious transfer and transition of technology within the worldwide research and development community.

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Thomas Kim  
AFOSR/AOARD