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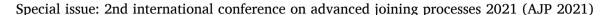
Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Advanced Joining Processes

journal homepage: www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-advanced-joining-processes



Editorial





This special issue of *Journal of Advanced Joining Processes* contains selected papers presented at the 2nd International Conference on Advanced Joining Processes 2021 (AJP 2021). AJP 2021 was chaired by Lucas F M da Silva (University of Porto, Portugal), Paulo Martins (University of Lisbon, Portugal) and Uwe Reisgen (RWTH Aachen University). It was held at Sintra (Portugal) during 21–22 October 2021 (www.fe.up.pt/ajp2021). The chairmen of AJP 2021 conference would like to thank the German scientific society for joining (WGF) for supporting the conference. The goal of the conference was to provide a unique opportunity to exchange information, present the latest results as well as to discuss issues relevant to advanced joining processes. Approximately 170 papers were presented by researchers from more than 20 countries.

In order to disseminate the work presented at AJP 2021, selected papers were prepared which resulted in the present Special Issue. A wide range of topics was covered, and many excellent papers were submitted. The major types of joining are represented in this special issue with 18 papers, i.e., welding, joining by plastic deformation, adhesive bonding and joining of composite materials. The first part dedicated to welding includes nine papers related to several advanced welding techniques such as laser and ultrasonic welding. The second part presents three papers on joining by plastic deformation. The following four papers are on adhesive bonding. The last two papers are on joining of composite

materials.

The special issue illustrates what is being developed at the moment around the world on advanced methods of joining and also serves as a reference for researchers and graduate students working with advanced joining processes.

The editors would like to thank the authors for their patience with the review process and the reviewers for providing critical evaluations of these manuscripts. Finally, Paulo Martins would like to acknowledge the support provided by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia of Portugal and IDMEC under LAETA-UIDB/50022/2020 and PTDC/EME-EME/0949/2020.

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