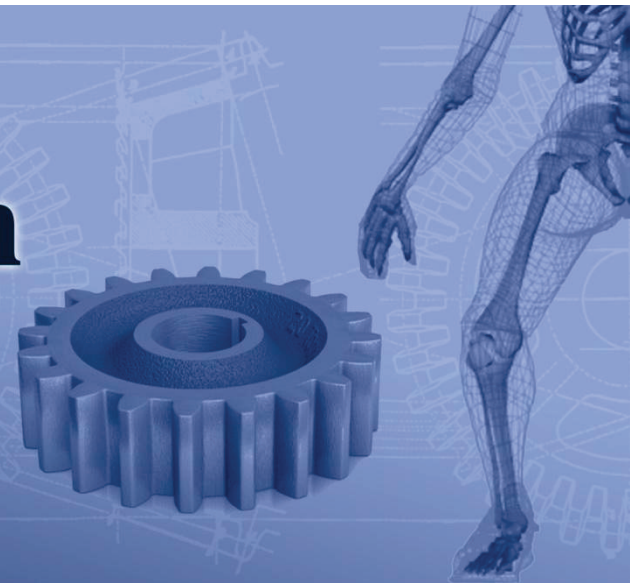




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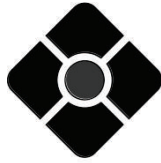
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Editorial

This first issue of the 2011 volume is dedicated to contact mechanics of materials and components. In the different papers a focus is given on new developments in the fields of tribology, contact fatigue, wear and damage behaviour of materials. Experimental test results as well as new analysis techniques are presented.

From this issue the SCAD journal will be co-edited by the Metal Structures Centre (MSC). The MSC is a recently established partnership between the Laboratory Soete of Ghent University, OCAS and the Belgian Welding Institute and consolidates the research on metal structures in Flanders. The year 2011 will be important for the MSC partners, since in the coming months they all will move to a central campus. This way a new research cluster is created. The new research centre will coordinate and further develop the knowledge and competencies on the design, the use and the evaluation of the behaviour of steel structures.

Finally, I can also look back at a successful edition of last SCAD conference, that took place on 16 and 17 February in Ghent. With over 180 participants this year's conference further exceeded the success of the 2010 edition. I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude to all who participated or contributed to this year's conference.



SCAD 2011 conference, past 16 and 17 February in Ghent, Belgium.

Jeroen Van Wittenberghe

SCAD journal editor

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