

#### CONFERENCE VENUE

The conference will be held at the University of Bristol, located about 200 km west of London, about one and a half hours by train. Bristol International Airport has direct flights to destinations in Europe with connections worldwide. There is a direct bus from London Heathrow airport (2 hours) and Gatwick (3 hours).



Bristol has strong associations with the 19th century engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel who designed the Clifton Suspension bridge, which is close to the University. His SS Great Britain was the first large iron hulled, propeller driven steamship, and the conference dinner will take place on the ship.

Bristol is at the heart of the aerospace industry. Airbus, Rolls Royce and BAESystems are based here, with other large users of composites such as Agusta Westland and Dowty Propellers nearby.

#### CONFERENCE CHAIRMEN

Prof Michael WISNOM, University of Bristol (UK)  
Prof Fabrice PIERRON, ENSAM Châlons (France)

#### INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof Olivier ALLIX, ENS Cachan (France)  
Prof Didier BAPTISTE, ENSAM (France)  
Prof John BOTSIS, EPFL (Switzerland)  
Dr Paul BRØNSTED, RISØ (Denmark)  
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Prof Federico PARIS, Sevilla University (Spain)  
Dr Ivana PARTRIDGE, Cranfield University (UK)  
Prof Anoush POURSAERTIP, Univ. of BC (Canada)  
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Prof Alain VAUTRIN, ENSM.SE St-Étienne (France)

#### LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

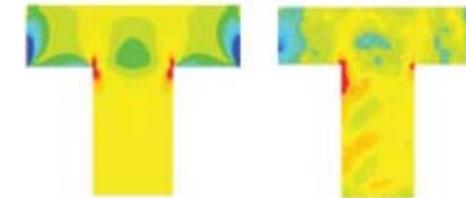
Ms Sarah Hugo, Dr Ian Bond, Dr Stephen Hallett,  
Prof Michael Wisnom, University of Bristol



## Composites Testing and Model Identification

### International Conference Call for Papers

21st–23rd September 2004  
University of Bristol, U.K.



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#### **SCOPE OF THE CONFERENCE**

This conference aims to gather together the international scientific community working in the field of testing and modelling of composites.

It is well known that testing such heterogeneous and anisotropic materials and structures raises a number of challenges to researchers, such as the identification of numerous parameters even for elasticity, the development of specific test fixtures (shear, compression...), or the control of parasitic effects. As a consequence, the development of testing and model identification procedures is broadly recognized as an interesting and important area. Moreover, recent developments in optical whole-field measurement techniques (speckle interferometry, digital image correlation, among others) open a very broad field of investigation. Testing and identification procedures for composites which have been developed over the last few decades based on limited local strain measurements have to be adapted to make full use of the enormous amount of data that whole-field methods provide. Testing to determine other physical parameters such as thermal expansion, cure shrinkage or moisture adsorption also poses considerable challenges. Apart from the large general composites conferences (ICCM, ECCM, etc.), there are very few occasions to exchange information on the topic of composites testing. The objective of the conference is to provide this opportunity, with single session format to provide an informal scientific exchange.

The first CompTest conference held in Châlons-en-Champagne in France in January 2003 attracted about 100 participants from 15 countries.

#### **RELEVANT TOPICS**

The conference will focus on all issues related to identifying parameters for modelling the mechanical and physical behaviour of composite materials. Particular attention will be given to innovative identification procedures, interactions between testing and modelling, and the use of whole-field measurements. All composite materials will be addressed (polymer, cement, ceramic, metallic matrices, carbon, glass, boron, natural fibres, wood etc.).

#### **PROCEEDINGS**

To keep the meeting as informal as possible, there will be no paper proceedings. A book of abstracts will be available for the conference and electronic presentations will be gathered on a CD-ROM. The scientific committee will propose a selection of papers for publication in Composites Part A: Applied Science and Manufacturing.

#### **AIRBUS VISIT AND WORKSHOP ON EXPERIMENTAL STRAIN MEASUREMENT**

A one day visit to Airbus has been arranged on **Monday 20th September**. This will consist of a tour of Airbus composites research, manufacturing and testing facilities, and a workshop demonstrating a number of experimental strain measurement techniques for composites including ESPI, grid method and digital image correlation, organised by Dr Richard Burguete from the Experimental Mechanics Group at Airbus. Lunch and refreshments will be provided courtesy of Airbus.

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

There are a number of reasonably priced hotels within walking distance of the University. Student accommodation in halls of residence will also be offered. Further information will be posted on the conference website.

#### **REGISTRATION FEES**

Fees for advanced registration will not exceed £250. Full details will be posted on the conference website.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Abstract submission: **28th February 2004**

Two page abstracts are to be submitted, preferably electronically. Accepted electronic formats are: .pdf (preferred), .rtf and .doc (MSWord).

Notification to authors: **30th April 2004**

Final programme: **30th May 2004**

#### **CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT**

Abstracts to be sent to:

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