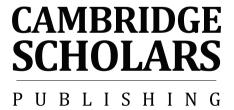
The Automobile and the Environment

The Automobile and the Environment: International Congress of Automotive and Transport Engineering CONAT 2010

Edited by

Anghel Chiru



The Automobile and the Environment: International Congress of Automotive and Transport Engineering CONAT 2010, Edited by Anghel Chiru

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	. xi
Part I: Automotive Powertrains	
Chapter One Thermodynamic Aspects of Power Production in Energy Systems Stanislaw Sieniutycz	3
Chapter TwoModern Thermal Management for Internal Combustion Engines Eduard Golovatai-Schmidt, Markus Popp and Elmar Mause	31
Chapter Three Test Bench for Testing Engine Variable Valve Timing System Electrovalves Anghel Chiru, Silviu-Florian Săraru and Eduard Golovatai-Schmidt	41
Chapter FourTest Plan for Electro-hydraulic Valves Cristian Şoimaru, Anghel Chiru and Cătălin-George Atanasiu	57
Chapter Five	65
Chapter Six	75
Chapter Seven	85

Chapter Eight
Chapter Nine
Chapter Ten
Part II: Alternative Fuels
Chapter Eleven
Chapter Twelve
Chapter Thirteen
Chapter Fourteen
Chapter Fifteen
Chapter Sixteen

21
37
77
39
)5
17
29
39
2

Chapter Twenty Five	19
Chapter Twenty Six	51
Chapter Twenty Seven	13
Chapter Twenty Eight	33
Chapter Twenty Nine)5
Chapter Thirty)3
Chapter Thirty One	.7
Chapter Thirty Two	27
Chapter Thirty Three	9

Chapter Thirty Four	451
Part IV: Transport, Traffic and Safety	
Chapter Thirty Five	465
Chapter Thirty Six	475
Chapter Thirty Seven	487
Chapter Thirty Eight	497
Chapter Thirty Nine	ion
Chapter Forty	519
Chapter Forty One Aspects Regarding the Vehicle-Pedestrian Collisions Dragos-Sorin Dima and Adrian Soica	533
Chapter Forty TwoOn Vehicle-Pedestrian Impact at Low Velocity Adrian Şoica, Nicolae Ispas, George Togănel, Mircea Năstăsoiu	549

Chapter Forty Three	567
Applying NCW Principles to Monitor the Operating Mode of Special	
Vehicles During Users' Training	
Cornel Aramă, Nicolae Iordache, Marian Oană and Gheorghe Bobescu	
Contributors	583

FOREWORD

The automobile - miracle of this century, and the industries which contribute to its production, incorporate results of the high competitions in engineering creation and innovation, obtained under conditions of severe selections made in conjunction with the values of human society, culture and life style of local communities, sustainable development and environmental protection.

The development of strategic concepts for future automobiles involves a great scientific and technical cooperation between research institutes, manufacturing companies, major universities and local governments. This involves the development of highly complex researches, covering:

- advanced design, modeling and simulation procedures, controlled by powerful information systems;
- new modern materials, innovative manufacturing and assembling technologies that allow to identify the technical solutions for high productivity;
- alternative fuels, sustainable development, recycling and environment protection;
- advanced testing, analysis and validation technologies;
- vehicles with alternative propulsion systems, attractive and environmental responsible; management of the propulsion sources, braking energy recovery, driving facilitate and comfort improvement;
- the mechatronic architectures that facilitate the development of engine systems and automotive engineering;
- performant road traffic and safety with benefits in accident reconstruction; objective perception of the relationship between people-environment-vehicle-road safety assessment;
- lifecycle analysis as a holistic approach; vehicle reliability and risk assessment.

Wishing to respond to major challenges set out by the themes presented, in terms of restructuring the research and innovation policies and programs, of global production capacities resizing, defining new strategic alliances, development of emerging markets, increasing the competitiveness and requirements imposed in projects selection, we selected for this volume 43 scientific papers, from the 260 papers produced and presented by specialists from academic institutions, companies and research institutes from 22

xii Foreword

countries, which were held in the sessions of the International Congress for Automotive and Transport Engineering CONAT 2010. The selected papers were focused and structured on four key themes which covered the topics:

- Automotive Powertrains
- Alternative Fuels
- Vehicle Dynamics, Vehicle Systems Design
- Transport, Traffic and Safety.

The scientific and technical information presented are intended for those who design, research, optimize and manufacture automobiles, equipment and components, technologies, innovative materials and processes, road traffic networks and systems, security systems and smart cars. They are also useful for many specialists who create installations, processes and equipment that enable the development of new propulsion sources for future vehicles, alternative fuels recipes, techniques for recycling and environmental protection.

Regarding the International Congress CONAT 2010 (XI-th edition, 27-29 October 2010), organized by SIAR – the Society of Automotive Engineers of Romania, Transilvania University of Braşov and SAE International, under the patronage of FISITA (International Federation of Automotive Engineering Societies) and EAEC (European Automobile Engineers Cooperation), it must be highlighted that this event was dedicated to celebration of 61 years of the Automotive School at Transilvania University and 20 years after founding SIAR.

This book was possible to be realized in this form thanks to the help of Mr. Dinu Covaciu, Ph.D., researcher at Transilvania University of Braşov. In all the activities he has undertaken, from manuscript to final form, I noticed the scientific rigor, determination and organization effectiveness. I wish to thank also for their help to my colleagues: Prof.Eng. Gheorghe Alexandru Radu, Ph.D., eng. Ruxandra Cristina Dica, Ph.D. Candidate, and also to all the collaborators from the Automotive Engineering Department of the Transilvania University.

To Mr. Brigadier ret. Prof. Günter Hohl, EAEC President, and to Mr. Dipl.Ing. Eduard Golovatai-Schmidt, Manager Advance Development Engine Systems at Schaeffler Technologies GmbH & Co.KG, I wish to present my deep gratitude for their interest and involvement in the organization of the CONAT 2010 Congress and the realization of this book.

Braşov, 04.04.2011 Anghel CHIRU Prof.Eng., Ph.D. Chairman of the Congres CONAT 2010

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584 Contributors

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