



Low-Profile Compliant Actuators for Wearable Devices

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (28 February 2019)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Mechatronic wearable devices for health, sports training, or gaming applications are being more widely developed. However, current actuator technologies limit the minimization of the overall size and weight of these devices, preventing innovation into truly unobtrusive wearable form factors that are also effective and comfortable. This Special Issue is aimed at highlighting recent contributions to the development of low-profile compliant actuators which are required to advance this field further. Contributions are particularly encouraged in the following areas: investigation of new materials, development of new actuator configurations, and methods for more accurately controlling existing low profile actuators, among others.

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Guest Editors

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Message from the Editorial Board

We are just entering the Next Wave of Technology (NWT) where actuators will play the same role as the computer chip did for computers/social media approximately four decades ago. Just in the U.S., production of \$1 trillion year of electromechanical systems (vehicles, orthotics, manufacturing cells, freight trains, aircraft, etc.) will be impacted by the NWT, all driven by actuators. Five key trends can be found for the future perspectives: “Performance to Reliability”, “Hard to Soft”, “Macro to Nano”, “Homo to Hetero” and “Single to Multi functional”. We invite papers that primarily impact these economic sectors; those illustrating basic scientific principles are also welcome.

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