

Special Issue

Composite and Smart Materials: Theory, Methods and Applications

Message from the Guest Editors

In the last few decades, a great amount of effort has been dedicated to the development of advanced composites with enhanced performance. The main characteristic of these materials is that they respond to an external or internal “stimulus”, in a passive, active, or even adaptive way, demonstrating similarities with biological systems. In general, smart materials provide diverse nonstructural capabilities, such as inherent structural health monitoring, sensing and actuation, power harvesting and power storage, inhibition of microbial growth, drug delivery, and so on, in addition to structural capabilities such as wear resistance, morphing or self-healing. Thus, new methodologies need to be developed and existing ones need to be altered/optimized to allow maximization of the applicability of smart composites. Based on the above, research papers either experimental or theoretical/numerical are invited in relation to composites and smart materials, in any field where the materials by design perform in diverse ways to respond to their service conditions.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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