

Special Issue

Additive Manufacturing and Sustainability in the Digital Age: People, Factories and Businesses of the Future

Message from the Guest Editors

Additive manufacturing (AM) is one of the most promising and game-changing manufacturing technologies, emerging from the new global industrial revolution known as Industry 4.0. This Special Issue intends to integrate several multidisciplinary areas that are fundamental in AM development. Firstly, to address the sustainability issues, namely the environmental implications of the uncontrolled use of AM by prosumers and the necessity to identify, systematically, different materials by type and to create mechanisms for their classification, separation, and recycling. Secondly, to address the impacts on factories and the business model of the utilization of AM technology – more consumer-centered businesses, increase in remote and decentralized manufacturing and reduction in stock levels, creating more secure and efficient supply chains and more problems of protection of patent rights. Thirdly, to address the impacts of AM on people's lives with impacts in areas such as health or transports.

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I encourage you to contribute a research or comprehensive review article for consideration for publication in *Sustainability*, an international Open Access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to sustainability and sustainable development. *Sustainability* publishes original research articles, review articles and communications. I am confident you will find the journal contributes to enhancing understanding of sustainability and fostering initiatives and applications of sustainability-based measures and activities.

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