

Dear Colleagues,

A few months ago, a group of past IGTI board members got together and discussed the direction of IGTI within our community and decided to form the Global Power and Propulsion Society (GPPS), a new society for professionals involved in the technology development of rotating machinery for power and propulsion. Having been personally active in IGTI for the past 28 years, this was a major step for me personally. Following a series of discussions and planning meetings, GPPS was then established. The key points of our society is captured in the first letter; Global. We will direct GPPS to be a truly global organization with equal participation from North America, Asia and Europe, for the time being. We will reach out to other regions of the world and help establish their communities of experts in order to join us at a later date. The not-for profit volunteer-led organization of GPPS will foster an equal balance between industry and academia. We would like to create an environment that support basic science and technology being developed for application in industry and society as a whole, while being reactive the changes in the world around us in a timely manner. Within GPPS and when requested, we intend to actively support existing local and regional communities/ activities and help them improve and provide a higher level of professionalism and quality.

GPPS will support different types of events and conferences; including executive forums, Technical congresses in the same spirit of IGTI with even a higher quality and perhaps a fewer number of papers, as well as specialty conferences and regional support activities. Our technical conferences will be attached to our own journals, with open access. We will focus only on the highest quality and try to raise the bar. Our journal will have a list of renowned associate editors to support turbo machinery papers, with an internal aggressive target of 3 months from submission to publication. We have already engaged multiple companies and have been happy with the support which we have received from them. With active engagement, we are pursuing engagement with industrial and academic institutions within our targeted regions.

GPPS is currently being led by 9 members of the Executive Committee together with 9 other members of the Advisory Committee. Among this group of 18 people, 13 have been past members and Chairmen of the IGTI Board of Directors. This group would not have taken this extraordinary step unless there was an urgent need and a window of opportunity. GPPS has a strict term limit for all its officers, ensuring a rotation of the leadership to allow a healthy participation of engaged and active colleagues in setting the direction and operation of the society. With support from its growing staff members (currently 3 with 1 in US, 1 in Switzerland, 1 in China), our goal is to provide services and outreach unprecedented in our community.

From 16th to 18th of January 2017 in Zurich, Power and Propulsion Forum (PPF) will kick-start the first of our societal events. Here, we expect to have 200 to 300 senior people from around the world gather and start a new chapter. In addition to our targeted 100 to 120 high quality papers, we have many panel sessions and discussion groups to help plan different activities of GPPS, including identify future leaders for many of our different activities. The target of PPF is primarily senior academics and industry specialists/executives who can come together to help us plan and grow our society.

In 1966 the Gas Turbine Division of the ASME held its first annual international meeting in Zurich. Exactly 50 years later, we have created a new society to continue the same tradition of international technological collaboration and dialogue, in order to rejuvenate our new community for the next 50 years.

I personally would like to welcome you all you participate and if you have any questions, do feel free to contact me.

Best regards,

Reza Abhari, Chair, Executive Committee  
Howard Hodson, Vice Chair, Executive Committee  
Seung Jin Song, Treasurer, Executive Committee

Global Power and Propulsion Society