## Preface

The 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference in Advances in Manufacturing and Laser Processing Technology (AMLPT 2019) was held from 25-26 September 2019 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The conference sought to outline the current landscape of advanced laser manufacturing and laser processing technologies in Malaysia. The conference participants comprised of local and international researchers, engineers and scientists from various fields and disciplines who are active in Malaysia.

This special issue of *Lasers in Engineering* comprises six selected peer reviewed papers from the Laser Processing Session that formed AMLPT 2019. The outcome is an excellent compilation of papers presented and submitted from academic users that cover a range of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary topics. These include research into laser beam welding (LBW) and joining of dissimilar materials, laser soldering and brazing, laser surface texturing (LST), laser cladding, re-manufacturing technologies, numerical simulation, process safety and hazards, and development in chemical engineering processes. Several of the papers within this special issue presented for the first time new approaches and enhancements to drive green practices within manufacturing; namely in terms of developing new materials, energy saving initiatives and innovative manufacturing processes.

It has been a great opportunity and pleasure to edit this special issue of *Lasers in Engineering*, especially as it showcases the latest developments in Malaysia. This is vitally important to the nation as it recognizes that the laser is a most relevant driver for green and sustainable manufacturing, as well an integral part of Industry 4.0. We are greatly appreciative of the work of the AMLPT Organizing Committee, the Session Chairs and the academic reviewers of the papers herein.

The papers contained herein represent original developments in laser materials processing on the global stage. We believe that this special issue of *Lasers in Engineering* will act as a catalyst for further associated research by the engineers, scientists and researchers in the fields of laser materials pro-

cessing, materials science and advanced manufacturing technology, both in Malaysia and across the world.

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