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Timber Buildings - Design for the Future

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Message from the Guest Editors

In light of climate change, the world is facing increasing challenges in adapting building design to the current and future situation. Among the possible solutions, timber buildings have proven to be one of the best ways to respond to the existing challenges. As a result, it can be noted that in many countries of the world, where wood is treated as a sustainable material, a trend towards the construction of timber buildings has been observed in recent decades. However, the latter is possible thanks to advances in engineering sciences and timber construction technologies. Despite the growth and numerous advantages of timber construction, there is still much potential for the future in the development of timber buildings—both new and those that need to be renovated in line with modern trends and requirements. In order to achieve a high level of quality, many interdisciplinary areas such as architectural design, structural design, energy efficiency, environmental impact assessment, and also the social aspect of a sustainable timber building design approach need to be discussed and researched in more detail.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Current urban environments are home to multi-modal transit systems, extensive energy grids, a building stock, and integrated services. Sprawling neighborhoods are composed of buildings that accommodate living and working quarters. However, it is expected that the cities and communities of the future will face complex and enormous challenges, including maintenance, interconnectivity, resilience, energy efficiency, and sustainability issues, to name but a few. A smart city uses advanced technologies and a digital infrastructure to improve the outcomes in every aspect of a city's operations. A smart building optimizes the experience of occupants, staff, and management by using a modern and connected environment. Innovations in technology that can bring dramatic improvements to design, planning, and policy are critical in developing the cities and buildings of the future.

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