



## Advanced Techniques Utilized in Smart Composites

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### Message from the Guest Editors

A composite material is a combination, at the macroscopic level, of at least two distinct phases, called matrix and fibres, resulting in a new material with enhanced characteristics from those presented by the individual base materials. The material that forms the matrix – a polymer, a metal, or a ceramic, gives the structure to the composite material, filling in the empty spaces between the fibres and keeping them in their relative position. The fibres or the particles enhance the mechanical, the electromagnetic, or the chemical behaviour of the composite material, to mention few. The reinforcements of a composite material can be composed of short or long fibres (or even dispersed particles), acting as thermomechanical sensors and actuators, constituting the so-called Smart Composites, which are being widespread nowadays in several engineering applications, intimately related with Structural Health Monitoring.

Therefore, in this Special Issue, we cordially invite the Colleagues to present current research and engineering applications in these domains, taking also into account the advanced techniques of production and processing of these Smart Composites.





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