

## Tomáš ČERMÁK<sup>\*</sup>

## CONFERENCE "EXPERIMENTAL STRESS ANALYSIS 2008"

## (PREFACE OF THE RECTOR OF VŠB-TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF OSTRAVA)

International scientific Conference "EXPERIMENTAL STRESS ANALYSIS 2008" is the best opportunity to present examples of good practices in transfer of science, research and technology for very important sector of our national and regional economy – machinery.

Over the past decade has changed the role of universities in the European context. University autonomy must lead to change universities as key actors in knowledge – production for innovation processes and economic competitiveness and for quick reaction to the demands placed on them by industry and by society. The "golden age" of basic research, which was quite separated from applicability is now changing to conveing knowledge to where it can find direct application and does not exclude the availability of practice – oriented know-how.

We would like to demonstrate our aim to help these processes and new innovation trends on the following example.

VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava with cooperation from the Institute for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (ITAM) of the Academy of Sciences of Czech Republic (AS CR) has substantial experience in the research and development of the structure reliability assessment methods.

At the present time  $V\dot{S}B - TU$  Ostrava is deeply involved in the further development of the Simulation Based Reliability Assessment (SBRA) method and is actively publishing numerous papers, studies and reports, the results of which can be widely applied.

I wish organizers of the Conference "EXPERIMENTAL STRESS ANALYSIS 2008" successful assessment of their hard work by participants, positive outcomes and developing of new partnerships.

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