Editorial

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I am delighted to present the 15th volume of Optimization and Engineering (OPTE), offering the usual array of articles ranging from the study of new optimization methods to the innovative application of optimization in various engineering areas.

Regular readers will notice that the journal has undergone some changes. The most noticeable alteration is the new cover of the journal. This cover was designed by one of our editors, Professor Joaquim Martins of the University of Michigan, with contributions from Peter Zhoujie Lyu and Gaetan Kenway. I thank them very much for their important contribution to the visual identity of the journal. The image on the cover illustrates an important application of optimization in aircraft design. Specifically, it shows that an optimized wing has no shockwave and hence much lower drag than a non-optimized wing. This is a perfect example of the fruitful exchange of ideas between the engineering and mathematical optimization communities that is OPTE's *raison d'être*.

Another major change is the expansion of our editorial board. More than 15 colleagues joined the board in 2013, and I thank them for agreeing to serve our communities via OPTE. I also thank those members of the board who have been contributing to OPTE for many years. Your time and expertise are essential to support OPTE's distinctive review process in which each paper is assigned to two associate editors, one from each discipline, thus ensuring that all the published papers are relevant to both communities.

The structure of the board has also changed through the creation of subject editors for mathematics. This provides an explicit indication of the areas within mathematical optimization that are of particular interest to OPTE. Subject editors already existed for the major areas of engineering, and their number has increased through the creation of new areas in aerospace, financial, and healthcare

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engineering. These are among the areas of engineering where optimization is playing an ever-increasing role, as is shown by some of the articles in this issue.

I thank Springer for its active support throughout the implementation of these changes. I know I can count on its continuing support as we work on further changes to improve OPTE's ability to support the needs of our communities.

Last but not least, I thank the authors, reviewers, and readers of OPTE. Your support is essential to ensure that the journal continues to fulfill its mission of promoting the advancement of optimization methods and their innovative applications in engineering. I continue to welcome your comments on any aspect of OPTE and will take all suggestions into consideration. I count on you to submit, and to strongly encourage your colleagues to submit, high-quality papers on any aspect of the exciting research at the interface of optimization and engineering.

I look forward to a future of fruitful research in optimization and engineering!