

IMAC-XV RESPONDS TO TIMELY TECHNOLOGY TOPICS

The Technical Program theme, "New Horizon for Damage Detection," gave rise to this expanding area of interest. Eight full sessions were dedicated to this topic, as well as a preconference short course. IMAC-XV welcomed several new exhibitors to the conference as well as over 90 first-time IMAC attendees.

The February, 1997 IMAC was the fifteenth anniversary of this annual international conference for the modal analysis and structural dynamics community. It will also be known as the most exceptional of the past 15 IMACs. The technical program was filled to capacity and the exhibit hall was extremely active throughout the event.

The IMAC Luncheon was well attended and those present enjoyed a very animated

and informative presentation titled, "Needs and Challenges for Structural Damage Detection," by Carlos E. Ventura of the University of British Columbia. At the luncheon, SEM President, Beth Fuchs, presented Ken McConnell, Iowa State University, with the D.J. DeMichele Award for his efforts to promote the scientific and educational aspects of modal analysis.

IMAC Technical Program Chair, Al Wicks, displayed a "Thank You" poster, signed by IMAC attendees, for Dick DeMichele and his considerable efforts in organizing the past 15 years of IMAC.

The Call for Papers is out for the 1998 IMAC-XVI: February 2 - 5, 1998 in Santa Barbara, California. The Call for Papers is also located on the IMAC Home Page on SEM's web site:

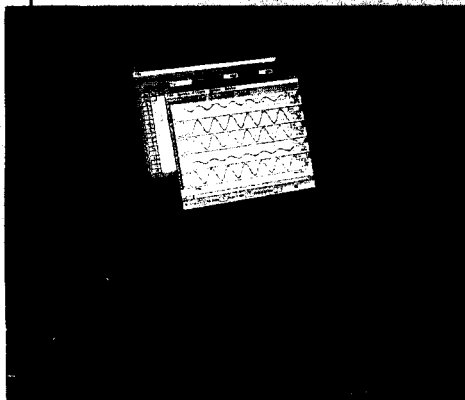
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◀ Dr. Ken McConnell, recipient of the 1997 D.J. DeMichele Award

✓ The IMAC-XVI Exhibit Hall offered attendees first-hand exposure to the latest products and services

