PROCEEDINGS OF THE
THIRTY-FIRST INTERNATIONAL
MATADOR
CONFERENCE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
**THIRTY-FIRST INTERNATIONAL
MATADOR
CONFERENCE**

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20th – 21st April 1995

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Foreword

by
Conference Chairman

I am pleased to introduce the Proceedings of the 31st International MATADOR Conference. The papers presented at the Conference, by authors from 19 countries in 6 continents, cover all aspects of manufacturing, ranging from manufacturing strategy to individual manufacturing processes.

Lately, manufacturing is being recognised, once again, as absolutely essential to the economic well-being of all countries. Manufacturing companies are having to become leaner, fitter and agile in order to survive in a highly competitive Worldwide market place. All organisations have to benchmark themselves against their best competitors. Technology, as well as methodology, have an important role to play in the design and operation of a competitive modern manufacturing business. Many manufacturing companies are having to respond to time-based competition. Techniques, such as concurrent engineering, are being used to compress the time required to design, manufacture and deliver products. Research is leading to a better understanding and enhanced capabilities of manufacturing processes. New manufacturing processes and techniques are being developed. The papers presented at the 31st International MATADOR Conference cover many of the recent important developments in manufacturing.

I hope that you will find the papers interesting and stimulating.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A K Kochhar', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

PROFESSOR A K KOCHHAR