

Preface

Fracture and Fatigue, Volume 7: Proceedings of the 2013 Annual Conference on Experimental and Applied Mechanics represents one of eight volumes of technical papers presented at the 2013 SEM Annual Conference and Exposition on Experimental and Applied Mechanics organized by the Society for Experimental Mechanics and held in Lombard, IL June 3–5, 2013. The complete Proceedings also includes the following volumes: *Dynamic Behavior of Materials*; *Challenges in Mechanics of Time-Dependent Materials and Processes in Conventional and Multifunctional Materials*; *Advancement of Optical Methods in Experimental Mechanics*; *Mechanics of Biological Systems and Materials*; *MEMS and Nanotechnology*; *Experimental Mechanics of Composite, Hybrid, and Multifunctional Materials*; and *Residual Stress, Thermomechanics & Infrared Imaging, Hybrid Techniques and Inverse Problems*.

Each collection presents early findings from experimental and computational investigations on an important area within Experimental Mechanics, Fracture and Fatigue being one of these areas.

Fatigue and fracture are two of the most critical considerations in engineering design. Understanding and characterizing fatigue and fracture has remained as one of the primary focus areas of experimental mechanics for several decades. Advances in experimental techniques, such as digital image correlation, has allowed for deeper study of phenomena related to fatigue and fracture. This volume contains the results of investigations of several aspects of fatigue and fracture, such as microstructural effects, the behavior of interfaces, the behavior of different and/or complex materials such as composites, and environmental and loading effects. The collection of experimental mechanics research included here represents another step toward solving the long-term challenges associated with fatigue and fracture.

Albuquerque, NM, USA

Jay Carroll

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