

Preface

Dynamics of Smart Systems and Structures presents a general overview of smart material systems and structures. This book represents an effort related to the *First School of Smart Structures in Engineering* that was held at UNESP/Ilha Solteira—SP, Brazil, November 9–13, 2014. The event was an initiative of the *Committee of Smart Materials and Structures* of the *Brazilian Society of Mechanical Sciences and Engineering* (ABCM).

The subject of Smart Materials and Structures in Brazil was related to several disconnected groups. However, in 2008, Brazilian government decided to sponsor thematic projects that would be organized to form *National Institutes of Science and Technology*. One of these projects is the *National Institute for Smart Structures in Engineering (INCT-EIE)* that represents a network that puts together a number of scientists, engineers, and students working collaboratively on a number of topics related to smart structures in cooperation with international groups. This initiative changed the scenario of Smart Structures in Brazil.

Several projects were developed since the beginning of the INCT-EIE activities. This book is one of them, being prepared thinking on the beginner students and engineers interested on Smart Material Systems and Structures. The authors hope that this introductory text may encourage, motivate, and help readers to explore this challenging interdisciplinary area.

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Concepts and Applications

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