

Editorial Note

Cartagena de Indias, 21 July 2010.

Welcome to this special edition of the *Ship Science & Technology* journal. Through this special edition it is our privilege to bring together an excellent compilation of the strongest articles presented by the Panamerican Advanced Studies Institute (PASI). We are proud to announce that for the first time, this event was hosted in Colombia and hope that delegates found the event to be stimulating and a valuable opportunity to network and keep abreast with developments in the field. This special edition is introduced by Dr. Leigh McCue from Virginia Tech and Dr. Marco San Juan from Universidad del Norte whose dedication, vision and hard work during the last two years made this event possible.

This PASI focused on the Dynamics and Control of Manned and Unmanned Marine Vehicles, a topic of special relevance to us, as it is in full alignment with Cotecmar's objective to increase awareness and develop the necessary knowledge to build a strong maritime industry in Colombia. Throughout the two weeks duration of this event, delegates had the opportunity to enhance their knowledge about the modern challenges and solutions faced by marine dynamics and control issues, establish collaborative relationships, and make new friends amongst colleagues. These new relationships have already resulted in new collaborative ventures amongst some of the institutions that took part in this year's PASI.

Having said this, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our partner, Universidad del Norte, for hosting the first week of the PASI in Barranquilla, and to thank Escuela Naval "Almirante Padilla", for hosting the second week in Cartagena. The hospitality of both these institutions made it possible for speakers and delegates alike to put to good practice the words from Cotecmar's Vicepresident, Captain Jorge E. Carreño, during the inaugural event: "while you learn about marine dynamics, take some time to enjoy these two unique cities in Colombia, enjoy the sun, the beaches, the food, the music, and in general take the time to experience the dynamics of the tropic".



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