

## **Preface**

In behalf of the Industrial Engineering and Operations Management (IEOM) Society, it is our great pleasure and honour to present the inaugural issue of a new scholarly journal, the International Journal of Industrial Engineering and Operations Management (IJIEOM). IJIEOM is the official journal of the IEOM Society and it is dedicated to offering a platform for the dissemination of high quality research work, in the field of industrial engineering and operations management, for academics, researchers and practitioners to advance the theory and practice as well as to identify major trends in industrial engineering and operations management. IJIEOM was founded with the objective of fostering the industrial engineering and operations management communities worldwide by publishing in-depth research oriented papers that provide solutions to theoretical challenges and real-life problems currently faced by researchers, practitioners, industries and societies in general. The mission of IJIEOM is to become a voice and provide a dissemination outlet for academics, researchers and industrialists, addressing the latest researches and developments in industrial engineering and operations management strategies, highlighting both theoretical and applied research with a significant practical impact. The global dimension of IJIEOM is focused on investigating and proposing operational policies, solutions, tactics, practices, methods, tools and concepts to more effectively and efficiently design, manage and improve industrial operations. IJIEOM intends to provide a vehicle to help professionals, senior executives, academics, researchers, industry consultants, and policy makers working in the fields of industrial engineering and operations management to learn from each other's work and disseminate state-of-the-art knowledge and information.

In particular, this inaugural issue of the IJIEOM is devoted to present some of the most significant industrial engineering and operations management challenges currently faced by organisations as well as the proposal of some strategies and methods to address them. In this spirit, the present inaugural issue includes six research articles, associated among them by the main unified theme of industrial engineering and operations management. These articles typify the investigation and examination of challenges and approaches to confront complex industrial engineering and operations management problems to make various systems, operations and processes more effective, efficient and robust.

Many institutions, scientists, academics and industrialists have contributed to the development of the industrial engineering and operations management community as well as its vast areas of research. The IEOM Society and IJIEOM are very thankful to everyone within that community who supported our dream of bring IJIEOM to life. We are sure that after this very first issue many others will follow, reporting new developments in the field. We are also very convinced that the articles published by IJIEOM will make a good reference material and be of great use and interest for academics, researchers, professionals, senior executives, industry consultants and policy makers working in the area of industrial engineering and operations management, and other related fields.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the editorial board members and reviewers for their unconditional support and effort to make IJIEOM a high standard dissemination platform of research, without their work and contribution this issue would have not been possible. We would also like to express our gratitude to all the IEOM Global Council and IEOM members, who have supported us at every stage of this exciting project. It is our hope that this fine collection of articles, and all those published in the future, will be a valuable

resource for industrial engineering and operations management readers and will instigate further research into the vibrant thematic areas of our profession.

**Prof. Jose Arturo Garza-Reyes**  
Editor-in-Chief

### **Biography**



Jose Arturo Garza-Reyes is the Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Industrial Engineering and Operations Management (IJIEOM). He is a Professor of Operations Management and Head of the Centre for Supply Chain Improvement at the College of Business, Law and Social Sciences, University of Derby, UK. Prof. Garza-Reyes is actively involved in industrial projects where he combines his knowledge, expertise and industrial experience in operations management to help organisations achieve excellence in their internal functions and supply chains. He has also led and managed international research projects funded by the European Commission, British Academy, British Council and Mexico's National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT). As a leading academic, he has published over 150 articles in leading scientific journals, international conferences and five books in the areas of operations management and innovation, manufacturing performance measurement and quality management systems. Prof. Garza-Reyes is also an Associate Editor of the International Journal of Operations and Production Management and Associate Editor of the Journal of Manufacturing Technology Management. He is also member of the editorial board of a number of prestigious international journals. Areas of expertise and interest for Professor Garza-Reyes include general aspects of operations and manufacturing management, business excellence, quality improvement and performance measurement. He is a Chartered Engineer (CEng), a certified Six Sigma-Green Belt, and has over eight years of industrial experience working as Production Manager, Production Engineer and Operations Manager for several international and local companies in both the UK and Mexico. He is also a fellow member of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA) and a member of the Institution of Engineering Technology (MIET).

