On behalf of the Chinese Industrial Engineering Institution, CMES, I am honored to welcome all the delegates of the 21st International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management (IEEM 2014). It is your great efforts that brought out the proceedings of IEEM 2014, which records the new research findings and development in the domain of IEEM. What is more exciting, you are the experts or scholars with a significant achievement in the field. I believe that the proceedings will serve as a guidebook for potential development.

Being one of the most important international conferences in the field of industrial engineering and engineering management, it has been successfully held 20 times. Each conference was regarded as the greatest event in industrial engineering and engineering management. Today, we gather together in the beautiful city of Zhuhai to celebrate the 21st International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management in the harvest season. The conference is sponsored by Chinese Industrial Engineering Institution, CMES and organized by Tianjin University of Science and Technology. The conference theme is “gathering the research results of the experts in the field, encouraging in-depth exchange of academic theories, exploring industrial innovation and development, promoting the world economic prosperity”.

Now, industrial engineering theories and applications are facing ongoing dramatic paradigm shifts. The 21st IEEM responds to the reality by establishing an advantageous platform for experts, scholars, and business people in this area to exchange their state-of-the-art research in the field of industrial engineering and engineering management and by outlining new developments in fundamental, approaches, methodologies, software systems, and applications in this area to promote industrial engineering application and development in the future.

We extend our sincerest thanks to Atlantis Press for their generous support in the compilation of the proceedings. Next, we extend our sincerest thanks to Beijing Institute of Technology for holding such an excellent event. Finally, we thank all the delegates, keynote speakers, and the staff of the organization committee for their contribution to the success of the conference in various ways.

Chair of the conference Academic Committee
Ershi Qi
President of Chinese Industrial Engineering Institution, CMES