

MESSAGE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS OF BALKANTRIB '93
from PROFESSOR H. PETER JOST, CBE DSc DTech DEng

President — International Tribology Council

My greetings to the Chairman, Members of the Organising Committee and to all participating in this first Balkan Conference in Tribology. It is a Source of great regret for me that prior commitments in London, which I am obliged to honour, prevent me from being with you on this historic occasion for Tribology.

During the past twenty-five years, tribology has moved forward rapidly. Not only has it widened but it has also changed its direction, and this change is reflected by the spread and variety of the Papers to be presented at this Conference during the next few days.

The programme that has been arranged covers papers dealing with nearly every aspect of tribology. They deal with some extremely important themes and present the results of in-depth research in areas of tribology, some of which were little known only a few years ago. The multi-disciplinary, approach of the papers reflects the expansion of tribology, and this makes the Conference doubly valuable.

I am offering my congratulations to the Chairman and Members of the Organising Committee for arranging such an excellent and wide-ranging programme, which is bound to benefit all partaking.

Your intention to discuss during the Conference the possible formation of a Balkan Tribological Association is laudable. An association of tribology societies in geographical area can be of great value to each member society, as has been in the Americas and in the Nordic Countries. I wish you good luck in your round table discussions and hope they will achieve the aim you all desire.

Some years ago Professor Jacques Jean Caubet discussed the new ambitions which could completely renew tribological knowledge in the medium term. He described the conceptual break-through as opening

and major behaviour; in other words the opening of the subject to any scientific pace, and the major behaviour of a self-assured science which is no longer afraid of the most ambitious hypotheses.

If you accept these conclusions, as I do, a series of formidable tasks are now building up, tasks which have to be addressed. If they are not, tribology will not be the enabling science, which it can and should be. Instead it will be a brake on scientific, technological and practical development. This must not happen.

We all know that tribology is a science and technology, closely connected with the realities of life; it lives in a real world. I was therefore impressed to read Professor Manolov's Paper on "Tribology and the World we live in". The wide view expressed in it can only help to place tribology in the position, which it requires to occupy in this modern industrial age of ours, in which technological inventions and developments are cascading upon us at an ever increasing rate.

Let us not forget that many of the world's economies are at a low ebb. It is the new technologies like tribology that will help overcome the present world recession and which will assist to increase the national wealth of many countries. I hope by the information, presented in the papers of this Conference, will give rise to fruitful discussions, new thoughts and ideas in the subject to which all of us are devoted, and in which most of you attending Balkantrib '93 have distinguished themselves. I wish you a very successful and constructive Balkantrib'93.

H Peter Jost, President

30th September 1993