The 17th International Conference on Precision Engineering (ICPE2018) was held on Nov. 12th through 16th, 2018 in Kamakura City, Kanagawa, Japan. ICPE is the principal international conference of the Japan Society of Precision Engineering (JSPE) and is held every other year.

ICPE2018 consisted of plenary sessions and oral sessions. 295 researchers and engineers from 10 countries, including France, Germany, Sweden, UK, and Asian countries, attended the conference. Four distinguished speakers, Emeritus Prof. Shinji Shimizu (Sophia Univ., Japan), Prof. Haedo Jeong (Pusan National Univ., Korea), Dr. Junichi Tsuji (AIST, Japan), and Dr. Jan Braasch (HEIDENHAIN GmbH, Germany) gave their excellent talks in the plenary sessions. The plenary speeches were open to everyone.

A total of 201 academic contributions were presented in four parallel oral sessions. The topics cover diverse fields closely related to precision engineering such as precision machining technologies, machine tool, metrology, manufacturing system, additive manufacturing, and so on.

On Nov. 12th, 1st JSPE Affiliate Workshop was organized to establish a platform of the worldwide personal exchange for young researchers and engineers in the field of precision engineering. Young invited speakers who have accomplished excellent research outcomes gave special lectures. Dr. Haydn Martin (University of Huddersfield) and Dr. Kang Ni (The Timken Company) were invited as the speakers through euspen and ASPE respectively.

At the banquet held on Nov. 14th, attendees enjoyed delicious food and a traditional Japanese music “Tsugaru-shamisen”. Best paper awards given to 9 papers and 10 winners of young researcher awards were announced at the banquet.

A post-conference tour was organized to visit the facilities of Makino Milling Machine Co., Ltd., one of the largest Japanese machine tool builder and FANUC Corporation, the largest makers of numerical controllers in the world.

The many attendees, many interesting presentations, and enjoyable social events made ICPE2018 very successful. We look forward to seeing you at ICPE2020, which is scheduled to be held in a port city, Kobe, Japan in Nov. 2020.