## Report of 18th International Conference on Precision Engineering (ICPE2020)

The 18th International Conference on Precision Engineering (ICPE2020) was held on 24th to 26th November, 2020 as a virtual conference from Kobe, Japan. Initially, ICPE2020 was planned to hold in Kobe. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be a global issue, the conference committee had to decide to cancel the face-to-face conference and transition to the virtual conference.

ICPE is the principal international conference organized by the Japan Society for Precision Engineering (JSPE). The first ICPE was held in 1974 in Tokyo and the ICPE is held every two years since 2006.



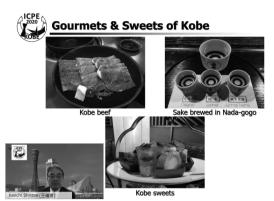
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ICPE2020 consisted of plenary, oral and poster sessions. Five distinguished speakers, Prof. Yusuf Altintas (The University of British Columbia, Canada), Prof. Fengzhou Fang (Tianjin University, China), Prof. Christian Brecher (RWTH Aachen University, Germany), President Shinichi Inoue (Makino Milling Machine Co., Ltd., Japan) and Prof. Dae-Eun Kim (Yonsei University, Korea) gave their excellent presentations.

189 papers were presented in oral session, and 38 papers were presented in poster session. All participants were able to see proceedings and videos or posters of all papers from 8:00 JST on 24th to 17:00 JST on 30th November at the virtual conference. 368 participants were registered, they accessed the virtual conference 40,625 times and played the video of oral presentations 1391 times.

At the opening ceremony on 24th November, Prof. Takamasu who is a president of JSPE gave his opening address, and Prof. Shirase who is a conference committee chair gave his welcome address. In the welcome address, history of ICPE and Kobe were introduced. Also, gourmets and sweets famous in Kobe were introduced. Unfortunately, the banquet dinner had been canceled

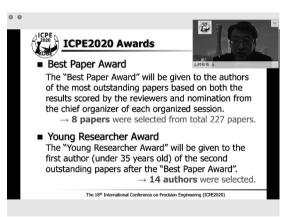
due to the COVID-19 pandemic, memorable Kobe and ICPE2020 souvenirs were delivered for all participants.



Introduction of gourmets and sweets famous in Kobe

A special lecture "Sustainable sake brewing through tradition and innovation" was given by President Takenosuke Yasufuku (Kobe Shushinkan Brewery) on 25th November.

At the closing ceremony on 26th November, Prof. Yamamura who is a program committee chair introduced the Best Paper Award and the Young Researcher Award. 8 papers were selected from total 227 papers and received the Best Paper Award. 14 young authors were selected and received the Young Researcher Award.



Introduction of awardees of ICPE2020 Awards

Announcement of the 19th ICPE (ICPE2022) was given by Prof. Matsubara who is a conference committee co-chair of ICPE2022. ICPE2022 will be held on 29th November to 2nd December, 2022 in a historical city Nara.

Finally, Prof. Hiraoka who is a vice-president of JSPE gave his closing address, and ICPE2020 was finished successfully.