

About Professor Toshikatsu Tanaka



It is a great pleasure for all of us to contribute to the special issue in honour of Professor Toshikatsu Tanaka, an internationally known researcher and scientist. Prof. T. Tanaka contributed immensely in the advancement of science and engineering of insulating materials and structures for power apparatus. His contributions and citations by numerous workers in the related research fields are also very well documented. Many topics in high voltage engineering explored by him has led to a memorable success. For example, his innovative contributions encompassed a number of research fields, such as dielectric polymer materials, polymer nanocomposites, breakdown mechanisms in solid insulation structures, alongside studies in a variety of specific problems, such as space charges and permittivity measurements (a brief biographical note of his with a short description of his research topics is included in this special issue on a separate page).

Prof. T. Tanaka is also well known from his books, which provide fundamental knowledge, such as the classic “Advanced power cable technology” (co-authored with Prof. A. Greenwood, CRC Press, 1983) and the more recent excellent books “Advanced nanodielectrics – Fundamentals and applications” (co-edited with T. Imai, Pan Stanford Publishing Pte. Ltd., 2017) and “Tailoring of nanocomposite dielectrics – From fundamentals to devices and applications” (co-edited with A. S. Vaughan, Pan Stanford Publishing Pte. Ltd., 2017).

Prof. T. Tanaka – apart from his deep knowledge in High Voltage Engineering and Insulating Materials – is also a man popularly recognized for his contribution in High Voltage technology. Besides his wealth of technical knowledge, we can learn from him about the Japanese culture and about the Japanese people. One can discuss with him a broad number of issues ranging from Japanese art to European civilization based on his experience of travelling to various countries around the globe. His lively discussions ranging from modern technology to historical issues and to everyday life aspects are always thought provoking. Prof. T. Tanaka is an eminent personality deeply respected among his colleagues, a really tall figure and one of the truly greats in insulation community, a person at the same time deeply Japanese and also a man of the world. If we can use a Japanese word, he is a sensei, in the deepest possible meaning.

We wish him a further great success in his already outstanding career, sound health and continue to mentor all of us.

Guest Editors:

R. Sarathi, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, India
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