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Preface

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PREFACE

Preface

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The inaugural issue of the 2026 volume of Aerotecnica Missili & Spazio marks the 105th year of continuous publication of the journal of the Italian Association of Aeronautics and Astronautics, AIDAA. This issue features articles from China, Belgium, Italy, and the USA that present new ideas and results on metamaterials, airfoil fluid dynamics, telescopes, unmanned air vehicles, composite structures, and space traffic management.

In 2025, Aerotecnica achieved several milestones; among them, the Scopus and ESCI (Web of Science) indexing recognized a decade-long effort by AIDAA and its leadership: Professors Carrera, De Rosa, and Frediani.

Over the past year, Aerotecnica published papers from 16 countries, sharing new ideas on Aerospace Science and Engineering. The journal's multidisciplinary scope was strengthened by contributions across fluid dynamics (17% of total contributions), structures and materials (21%), propulsion (10%), dynamics and control (23%), and systems (29%). Contributions focused on different platforms and missions, including aircraft and spacecraft, satellites and constellations, unmanned vehicles, turbofans and turboprops, launchers and thrusters, earth-observation, and space exploration.

In January 2026, the new editorial board began its 2-year term with members from 12 countries and 35 institutions. The Aerotecnica board is multidisciplinary and international and aims to consolidate the journal's role within the aerospace community through high-quality publications.

On behalf of the new board, I thank the colleagues who served as board members until 2025, the authors and reviewers who contributed to the journal's growth over the past few years.

The final note honors the memory of four long-standing, distinguished contributors to AIDAA's scientific activities and its journal who have recently passed away: Fausto Cereti, Paolo Mantegazza, Ugo Ponzi, and Egbert Torenbeek. Their excellent contributions to Aerospace Science and Engineering are gratefully acknowledged.

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