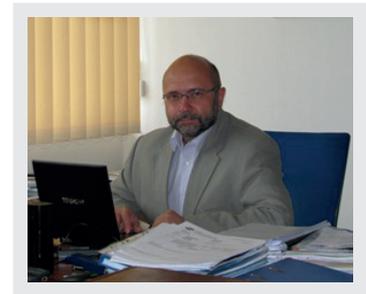


## Foreword about Jan Zidek, Vice-Dean of Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, VSB-Technical University of Ostrava:

Jan Zidek was born in Opava, 1957. He graduated in power engineering from the Faculty of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering VSB of Ostrava in 1982. He received his Ph.D. degree in power engineering at the same faculty in 1986. Since 1991 he has been Head of newly established Department of Electrical Measurement. Research and development activities of this department were oriented mainly towards virtual instrumentation. Since 1996 he has been associate professor with the same department. Since 1997 he has been manager of Division of Virtual Instrumentation in ELCOM Company which was established in Science and Technology Park of Ostrava. Since 2003 he has been vice dean of Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science VSB-Technical University of Ostrava. The topics of his research include virtual instrumentation based measurement and monitoring systems, graphical programming, power quality measurement and analysis, measurement in communication systems, soft skills improvement, project management, innovation activities.



Jan Zidek

Dear readers,

My professional career has been and is associated with the technology of virtual instrumentation. My colleagues and I were lucky that we managed to establish direct cooperation with technologically advanced company National Instruments from the U.S., the worldwide pioneer of this technology, shortly after the end of my doctoral studies. We started to teach new subjects strongly oriented to theory, HW and SW tools used in virtual instrumentation. We tried to involve students, many of whom were prepared during their long-term stay in the U.S., in instrument driver development project under contract with the NI company.

We have built a new technology center as the workplace of Division of Virtual Instrumentation of the ELCOM Company in Science and Technology Park of Ostrava in the neighborhood of VSB-Technical University of Ostrava. This combination of theory and practice in the form of real application-oriented projects has always brought us new challenges, forcing us to expand our horizons even in the field of theory.

The most interesting application area from my point of view is the measurement and signal analysis in state of the art communication systems. Today's mobile communication systems of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations are quite different from Graham Bell's concept of telephone. Very sophisticated mathematical methods of signal processing are implemented in software form that can run on unified hardware platform – it is really amazing to try understanding all details of their design. Each developer can try his own design of such system with software and hardware tools available to us. Degree of satisfaction that can be achieved in such type of activities is unique in today's world, which is characterized by skepticism.

I am convinced that this Advances in Electrical and Electronic Engineering journal can become one of the keys that you can use to enter into world of knowledge and your own satisfaction.