



DOMES AND CUPOLAS

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Dear Readers,

The idea for publishing *Domes and Cupolas: An International Journal for Architecture, Engineering, Conservation and Culture* came out of the “International Scientific Congress on Domes in the World” held in Florence in 2012. Hundreds of researchers and scholars presented their papers during the conference, in the shadow of Brunelleschi’s great dome which served as inspiration for further study of this fascinating and important field of engineering.

Besides the printed edition, a digital version will be available on the publishing house’s website. The journal is dedicated to everyone interested in the study of domes in all their many aspects, with the primary intention of inspiring and launching deeper knowledge and study of all areas of the field, from the structural elements, to means of conservation, scientific monitoring, and better understanding of the historical and symbolic significance of these wonderful and extraordinary elements of architecture.

The magazine comes into the world with Gennaro Tampone and Roberto Corazzi as its Editors and will present articles by important international experts and scholars.

Angelo Pontecorboli
Publisher & Editor-in-Chief

When I was informed some months ago about the project to create a new scientific journal devoted to the broad area of domes and cupolas, I found it an excellent and timely initiative for two reasons.

The first is that the study of domes and cupolas is by now a mature scientific field which is attracting contributions by researchers of many different disciplines, as confirmed by the International Congress “Domes in the World” held in Florence last year [in 2012]. Second, we can observe that the field is ready for fresh attention from the general public which has shown interest in a deeper understanding of the construction techniques of these unique building elements which characterize the beauty of towns all over the world. Therefore, it is natural to conclude that the presence of a journal devoted to this field would constitute an appropriate and stimulating forum for researchers, students and everyone interested in this area.

The project is now successfully off the ground and the new journal “Domes and Cupolas” has been born and the first number is being published.

Let me thank the many individuals who have made the journal possible and who have set up a very prestigious scientific committee, which should guarantee the high quality level and scientific rigor of the articles, surveys and letters which will be published. Let me also thank the editor for offering me the privilege of providing these words of welcome in the first issue of the publication. I really believe this new journal is a distinguished response to the need of an appropriate and rigorous forum devoted to domes and cupolas.

I am indeed sure that “Domes and Cupolas” will become the fundamental reference for researchers, students and everyone interested in the field internationally.

Alberto Tesi
Dean, University of Florence