Environmentally Conscious Manufacturing (ECM) is concerned with developing methods for manufacturing new products from conceptual design to final delivery and ultimately to the end-of-life disposal such that all the environmental standards and requirements are satisfied. Industrialized countries all over the world are facing serious aftermath of the rapid development that has taken place in the last few decades. In recent years, environmental awareness and recycling regulations have been putting pressure on many manufacturers and consumers, forcing them to produce and dispose of products in an environmentally responsible manner. Government regulations are becoming more compelling as many manufacturers feel the pressure to use recycled materials whenever possible. Sometimes they are even required to take care of their products at the end of their useful lives. This has created a need to design products that are friendly towards the environment, and easy to disassemble and recycle.

To that end, there is a need to develop algorithms, models, heuristics and software for addressing recycling and other end-of-life issues (such as the economic viability and the logistic aspects of disassembly, recycling, and remanufacturing) for an ever-increasing number of discarded products.

This conference will provide a forum for the latest developments in the field of environmentally conscious manufacturing (ECM) such as product reuse, remanufacturing, disassembly, and recycling strategies in a focused manner.

Abstract Due Date: 12 April 2004
Manuscript Due Date: 27 September 2004
Submission of Abstracts for Optics East Symposium

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