



Dear colleagues,

For decades, technical system dependability has been a focus of attention of the expert community. The relevance of the subject grows with the miniaturization of components and the growth of their number in systems. Along with the structural dependability that deals with only the failure and recovery processes in technical facilities, functional dependability is of increasing importance in the context of general dependability. The method of functional dependability is built around the estimation of the accuracy of process performance. This method takes into consideration the algorithms of the tasks performed in the system. It is designed for the purpose of evaluating the effects of operator errors, program

errors, faults, data errors on the results of the tasks performed in the system.

The dependability of technical systems is directly linked to their functional safety. The hazardous failure flow in a system's operation may be regarded as a multiply randomly rarefied failure flow of the components. Hazardous failures may cause critical or even catastrophic consequences to the system's operation. Therefore the problems of process-specific, technological and technology-related risks are closely related to the problems of functional safety and dependability of technical systems. Severe negative consequences in the operation of technical systems may be caused by computer attacks. The combination of functional safety and information security is within the domain of general safety that is covered by the Dependability journal.

Dependability is making steady progress. The Editorial Council now includes prominent researchers from Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, India, Israel and Serbia. The journal's global visibility is improving. Some of our authors reference their articles published in the journal, provide long lists of references to foreign publications in their papers. This practice increases the journal's citation indices and should help its inclusion into such international databases as Scopus.

I wish all of our authors great creative achievements, health and satisfaction with the results of their work.