Preface

This special issue contains 44 contributed papers presented at the JSME-IIP/ASME-ISPS Joint Conference on Micromechatronics for Information and Precision Equipment (MIPE2009) held in Tsukuba, Japan in June 2009.

Relevant technologies at MIPE2009 included (i) storage devices and related technologies such as head/disk interface and tribology, mechanisms and control, (ii) flexible media feeding and handling machines, (iii) image processing and printing technologies, (iv) intelligent machines, (v) bio-medical equipment, (vi) micro/nano precision equipment and (vii) micro/nano-system science and technology.

We hope that this special issue will provide a useful background for the most recent achievements in all fields of MIPE and the latest scientific and technological information necessary for the development of the MIPE equipment of tomorrow.

Finally yet importantly, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the editing and review committees who had made great efforts for publication of this issue, and authors who contributed papers.

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