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Fiber Optic Sensors and Applications X

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Introduction

Fiber Optic Sensors and Applications X continues with a tradition of SPIE sponsored fiber optic sensor conferences that started with the *Fiber Optic and Laser Sensor* series of conferences in 1983 that were in part derived on still earlier conferences including *Laser Inertial Rotation Sensors* in 1978 with several fiber optic gyro papers and several other fiber and integrated optic conferences that contained sessions on fiber sensors. This history now spans 35 years with many types of fiber optic sensors. Often a particular type of fiber sensor was highlighted in the conference, and in the case of these proceedings, an effort was made to collect papers that would serve to celebrate 25 years of fiber grating sensor development. As with every anniversary of technology, an exact beginning is sometimes hard to define. In this case, early effort in approximately the 1987 to 1988 time frame were used as the starting point, as the first commercially available fiber gratings began to appear and organizations almost immediately began to apply them to sensor applications.

Several invited papers describe various applications of fiber grating sensor technology and it is hoped in some sense that these provide a brief history of the technology as well as some directions for the future.

Other papers contained in this volume are directed toward other applications and there are several that involve biomedical and biochemical sensing.

Eric Udd
Gary Pickrell
Henry H. Du