Words from the Special Editor

The State of the Art of AHP/ANP in Brazil

As in the world, AHP/ANP is the most applied MCDM method in Brazil. There are AHP/ANP researchers and users from Northeastern to Southern Brazilian States. However, the Brazilian economy (63%) and population (42%) are concentrated in the Southeast Region. In this issue, we have works from three Southeast Brazilian States: Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, and Sao Paulo.

In the first article, Dimas Aguiar and his co-authors examine the FMEA (Failure Mode and Effect Analysis) process. A number of reference tables for the severity, occurrence and detection of failure have been proposed in the FMEA international literature, and they use the AHP to select the most appropriate reference tables for a Brazilian auto parts factory located in the State of Sao Paulo. This article is followed by an AHP application in Health Care Management: the selection of an ultrasonic scanning system for a private hospital in the State of Minas Gerais. Professor Jose Arnaldo Montevechi, a famous Brazilian consultant of Engineering Economics, was the supervisor of this application. The third article in this issue discusses the use of AHP to determine criteria weights used in post-occupancy evaluations by customers of building performance. This Civil Engineering application of AHP was conducted in Rio de Janeiro by Prof. Helder Costa, who authored one of the first AHP books in Portuguese. The last two articles were supervised by Prof. Carmen Belderrain, from the city of Sao Jose dos Campos, Sao Paulo. With Ph.D. candidate Claudio Piratelli, Prof. Belderrain presents the use of ANP in the design of a performance measurement system. In the last article, with Leila Nascimento and Amanda Silva, Prof. Belderrain presents how the ANP was used in a military decision that gained much attention in the Brazilian media in the year of 2009: the purchase of jet fighters by the Brazilian Air Force.

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