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In Celebration

## Professor Oleg M. Alifanov on his 75th birthday



On January 1, 2016 Professor Oleg M. Alifanov celebrated his 75th birthday.

Professor Oleg Alifanov received his Doctorate of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the Moscow Aviation Institute. He is a Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Science and full member of International Academy of Astronautics. Professor Alifanov is the Chief Scientist and Head of the Space Systems and Rocketry Department at the Moscow Aviation Institute (MAI, National Research University). He is also President of the Russian Aviation and Space Scientific Innovation Educational Complex and Vice-President of Russian Academy of Cosmonautics n.a. K.E. Tsiolkovsky.

Professor Oleg Alifanov was born in 1941 in Moscow. He is a renowned scientist, lecturer and organizer of educational activities and research in the field of aerospace science and technology. Professor Alifanov is a well-respected expert in the field of thermal design and the testing of space and aerospace vehicles.

Professor Oleg Alifanov conceived of a fundamentally new scientific line based on inverse methods. He proposed new approaches for solving a class of so-called “ill-posed” problems

that appear in heat and mass transfer. These methods make it possible to carry out studies involving thermal and thermo-strength states of materials and structures at near real flight conditions. This novel approach substantially improves the efficiency of the system under investigation and lowers the R&D costs for both the spacecraft thermal protection and control systems.

Professor Oleg Alifanov has authored and/or co-authored more than 400 scientific publications that include 14 books, 3 encyclopedias, and 41 inventions and patents. Among his past students are 8 professors and 17 PhDs. Finally, he is a member of 6 Russian and 4 International Scientific Journals.

Prof. Alifanov has received several awards, among them are the USSR State Prize, the Prizes of the President and the Government of Russia, the Frank J. Malina Astronautics Medal from the International Astronautical Federation, the Emile Prize from the International Astronautical Federation which is the highest award granted by International Astronautical Federation – A.D. Emile Award, the Diploma di Merito, and the Gold Medal of European Chambers.

Professor Alifanov actively promotes international cooperation and information exchanges through his participation in the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and the International Academy of Astronautics. He began participating as an IAF volunteer in 1989 and has since served as the representative of MAI to the Federation, as an author, session chair and coordinator as a member of the IAF Space Systems, Space Education and Outreach, Materials and Structures of Spacecraft and Nominations committees.

Professor Alifanov is one of the founders of the ICAS Cosmos and the RESIC of Airspace Industry. He has made significant contributions and strides into developing cooperations between universities and aerospace institutes in Russia and other countries. He has presented numerous scientific lectures and papers at universities, including the International Space University (ISU), research institutes and industrial enterprises around the world.

On this occasion of his 75th birthday, a great many friends, students and colleagues worldwide, as well as the editors of the *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer*, all wish Professor Alifanov a most wonderful Happy 75th Birthday with many thanks for all of his valuable contributions, outstanding service, and leadership. Professor Alifanov has inspired others through his hard

work, scientific contributions, physical insight and forward thinking throughout his prestigious career. We wish Professor Alifanov and his family continued prosperity, great health and happiness!

James V. Beck  
Leonid A. Dombrovsky  
George S. Dulikravich  
Ashley F. Emery  
Jay I. Frankel  
Yvon Jarny  
Anatoliy A. Koroteev  
Alexander I. Leontiev\*  
Daniel Lesnic  
Natalia V. Medvetskaya  
Alena V. Morzhukhina  
Aleksey V. Nenarokomov  
Helcio R.B. Orlande  
Hans-Jürgen Reinhardt  
Sergey A. Rukoline  
Constantinos P. Stavrinidis  
Keith A. Woodbury

*Russian Academy of Sciences, 17A Krasnokazarmennaya Str., IVT RAN,  
NCHMT, Moscow 111116, Russia*

\* Corresponding author.

*E-mail address:* [nchmt@iht.mpei.ac.ru](mailto:nchmt@iht.mpei.ac.ru) (A.I. Leontiev)

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