About the Author

Xun Xu has been working in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, The University of Auckland since 1996 after obtaining a PhD from the University of Manchester, then UMIST. Dr. Xu is currently an associate professor of manufacturing systems and leads the “Intelligent and Interoperable Manufacturing Systems” research group. Dr. Xu was a guest researcher at the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and a senior research fellow at the Japan National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). He has broad research interests – from CAD/CAPP/CAM/CNC to product lifecycle assessment and management, and from 3D digitisation of artefacts to re-modelling and visualisation, although his recent research work has been around STEP-compliant design and manufacturing, in particular STEP-NC. Dr. Xu has over 100 research publications, and is now serving in a number of editorial boards for international journals and has guest-edited three special journal issues. Dr. Xu also consults extensively in industry and has very close ties with industries both in New Zealand and overseas.