



# भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (भारतीय खनि विद्यापीठ), धनबाद Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad

For Immediate Release; January 22, 2026

## **PRESS-RELEASE**

### **IIT (ISM) Dhanbad to host International Conference on Innovations in Fluid Power (IFP 2026)**

The Department of Mechanical Engineering, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad on January 24-25, 2026 is set to organize the *International Conference on Innovations in Fluid Power (IFP 2026)* a globally recognized technical conference that will bring together leading academicians, researchers, policymakers and industry leaders from India and abroad. The conference is being organized in association with the *Fluid Power Society of India*, with *Maintonia*—the leading magazine in Tribology, Maintenance & Reliability—as the Media Partner.

IFP 2026 will serve as a premier international platform for deliberations on recent advancements, emerging trends and future directions in fluid power technologies, which are vital for sectors such as aerospace, mining, construction, manufacturing, mobile machinery and industrial automation. The conference will highlight the growing importance of energy efficiency, reliability, safety and sustainability in modern fluid power systems, particularly for heavy-duty and high-performance applications.

The conference has attracted several internationally renowned experts. Distinguished participants include Dr. Alexander Flaig, Senior Vice President, EMS, Bosch Rexroth AG; Prof. Andrea Vacca, Director of the Maha Fluid Power Research Center and Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Purdue University, USA; Dr. Emma Frosina, Associate Professor, Department of Engineering (DING), Università degli Studi del Sannio, Benevento, Italy; Prof. Dr.-Ing. Katharina Schmitz, Director, Institute for Fluid Power Drives and Systems (IFAS) and Vice Dean, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, RWTH Aachen University, Germany; and Dr. Steffen Haack, Global CEO, Bosch Rexroth AG, President of the VDMA Fluid Power Association and President of CETOP.

Notably, Dr. Alexander Flaig, Prof. Andrea Vacca and Dr. Emma Frosina will be visiting IIT (ISM) Dhanbad for the conference, marking their first visit to India and reflecting the increasing global engagement with Indian institutions in the domain of fluid power research.

Along with international delegates, IFP 2026 will witness participation from senior industry leaders including MDs and CEOs from organizations such as Volvo CE, Bosch Rexroth, Caterpillar, Sany India, DRDO, ISRO, HAL, BEML, Bull Machines, Epiroc, Walvoil, NLC, TATA Hitachi, Yuken India, Hydreco, Wipro, BCCL, Indpac and AMK, among others. Representatives from around 25–30 leading industries from India and abroad are expected, making the conference a major convergence of academia and industry.

Speaking about the conference, Prof. Ajit Kumar, Convenor of IFP 2026 and Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, said the event reflects the global recognition earned by the institute in fluid power research and industrial collaboration. He emphasized that IFP 2026 will promote innovation, safety, sustainability and indigenization of fluid power systems, especially for mining and heavy machinery applications.

Prof. Niranjana Kumar, Co-convenor, added that the conference will provide valuable opportunities for young researchers, students and professionals to interact with global leaders and explore collaborative research and technology development prospects.

With strong international participation and significant industry presence, IFP 2026 is poised to be one of the most impactful global conferences in fluid power hosted in India.

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