

Date: February 20, 2015

To: ACI Missouri Chapter "Abdeldjelil "DJ" Belarbi Graduate Scholarship Award

RE: Support Letter of Behalf of Mr. Iman Mehdipour

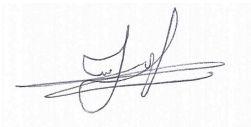
It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of support, who is nominated for an *ACI Missouri Chapter "Abdeldjelil "DJ" Belarbi Graduate Scholarship Award*. Mr. Mehdipour is pursuing his Ph.D. degree in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at the Missouri University of Science and Technology (S&T). He has been working with two students from the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, investigating the efficacy and utility of near-field microwave measurement techniques for evaluating the presence and determining the volume content of steel reinforcing fibers in concrete. This is an important issue from structural health monitoring point-of-view. Inclusion of steel fibers in concrete is increasingly receiving more attention and is becoming more and more of a viable practical approach for reinforcing concrete structures. Therefore, development of nondestructive tools to evaluate important properties of such structures is also of utmost importance. Once fully developed, this type of microwave measurement has the significant potential to become a robust tool-of-choice for this purpose. Mr. Mehdipour has also been leading the effort to prepare a full journal paper as a result of this research. We anticipate submitting this paper for publication very soon.

Mr. Mehdipour is a very smart and hard-working young man. He is a dedicated individual who has great sense of independence and works very well in a team composed of not only those in his own academic major but also others. He was also enrolled in my Nondestructive Testing Principle class last Spring and performed very well. Graduate students with the caliber of his accomplishments, motivation and dedication are rare.

I believe if he is selected to receive this scholarship award he will represent it very well and I would anticipate significant outcomes resulting from his work associated with this scholarship. Therefore, I strongly support his nomination for this award. Your consideration of this matter is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



R. Zoughi

Director – Applied Microwave nondestructive Testing Laboratory (*amntl*)

Fellow- American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT)

Fellow – Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)

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