

## INTRODUCTION

This is a special issue, introducing the research activities of the Department of Industrial Engineering, at the Budapest Technical University. The first students of this branch of study graduated in 1976; the period for evaluating the results is thus not too long. According to the organizational specialties of the university, a major (about 40 full time lecturers) department is responsible for the industrial engineering branch, dealing also with many other educational tasks in graduate and postgraduate training within the Mechanical, Chemical and Electrical Engineering faculties. Among the basic subjects of the department management, organization, planning, corporate economics, informatics and decision theory are to be found. This special issue shows some of the results of the activity, dealing exclusively with the training of mechanical engineers.

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