The Organizing Committee is pleased to announce that the Conference and Expo organization is progressing at full speed and the finalization of the preliminary program is completed and available on the conference website www.naceitalia.it/genoa2018. In total 150 abstracts had been accepted, divided in 5 parallel sessions for 2 days, such as:

- Oil & Gas Pipelines
- Oil & Gas Upstream
- Coating Technology
- Failure Analysis
- Cathodic Protection
- Corrosion in the Refinery Industry
- Corrosion Inhibitors and Monitoring
- Microbiologically Induced Corrosion
- Corrosion Resistant Alloys and Welding

Oil & Gas Pipelines
28 papers will be part of this session, which is chaired by Mario Celant (Pipe Team) Member of NACE Italy board of directors since 1985, Nace Distinguisghing award 2018.

The session will be composed by the following sub-sessions.

**Plate and Pipe manufacturing for sour service**

Co-Chair Asle Venås (DNV) - more than 35 years in the oil and gas industry. He joined DNV in 1982 and the major part of his working experience is from development and operation of oil and gas fields.

The recent cracking occurred in oil & gas pipelines in severe sour environments have raised questions on the use of TMCP plates due to the existence of local hard zones on plate surfaces. Issues have been raised on how they are generated, how to inspect plates/pipes, how to test / qualify materials for sour service, particularly in high H₂S partial pressure environments.

Researchers, plate and pipe manufacturers, testing laboratories, final users, regulation bodies are giving their point of view on this important and challenging subject.

Remedial actions such as reducing the material strength (with increasing wall thickness), revise/upgrade manufacturing procedures to prevent local hard zones onset, set up new NDT inspection methods, change from carbon steel to internally clad / lined pipes, etc., will be discussed.

**Pipeline: RBI, regulation and inspection**

Co-Chair Angelo Pette (Bureau Veritas) - Project Manager of Energy & Process Projects for Bureau Veritas Italia and he is now the Center South Italy Area Leader for Asset Integrity Management services.

Pipelines, as well as any other industrial plant, do need periodical maintenance, inspection, life extension, and the adoption of appropriate approaches is required to this scope. Of particular importance is the aspect of inspection by intelligent tools, using advances techniques such as magnetic flux leakage, ultrasonic inspection. Technique selection, frequency of inspection, interpretation of signals, are some of the aspects being discussed in the session.

**Material Testing, Selection and Corrosion Assessment**

Co-Chair Chris Fowler (Element) - NACE International President 2010-11, NACE International Institute President 2012-17 and Global Director of Corrosion, responsible for the technical aspects of corrosion in all of Exova-Element's facilities that offer corrosion testing and consultancy.

Oil and Gas environments typically face the problem of corrosion in environments containing CO₂ and H₂S. This issue is discussed in various papers and addresses given for testing of materials, which may be approached to obtain information on their selection criteria, ranking, qualification of manufacturing routes.

Several testing protocols have been developed and materials requirements were drawn, such as NACE MR0175, which is the most widely adopted standard for material selection in sour environments, both for carbon steels and corrosion resistant alloys. Other standards such as DNVGL-RP-F108 will also be introduced and discussed. New standards have been established in the recent years, such as the full ring test, now standardized by British Standard (BS8701).

Material selection and specialised testing protocols will be presented and discussed by several papers.