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**Short bio-data:** Dr. Rafiqul Gani retired at the end of 2017 as professor of systems design at the Department of Chemical & Biochemical Engineering, The Technical University of Denmark and the former head and co-founder of the Computer Aided Process Engineering Center (CAPEC). He has published 502 peer-reviewed journals-proceedings articles plus book chapters and delivered over 350 lectures, seminars and plenary/keynote lectures at international conferences, institutions and companies all over the world. Professor Gani is the former editor-in-chief of the Computers and Chemical Engineering journal (2009-2015), editor for the Elsevier CACE book series and currently serves in the editorial advisory boards of the following journals: Computers and Chemical Engineering, Sustainable Production & Consumption, Processes, BMC Chemical Engineering. Professor Gani has been awarded three Doctor Honoris Causa degrees from University Politehnica Bucharest, University of Pannonia and Babes-Bolyai University. Professor Gani is the ex-president of the EFCE (European Federation of Chemical Engineering, finishing his 2<sup>nd</sup> term at the end of 2017); a member of the Danish Academy of Science; a Fellow of the AIChE and a Fellow of IChemE. He was awarded the AIChE (CAST Division) Computers in Chemical Engineering 2015 award in November 2015. Dr. Gani is the co-founder and CEO of the company “PSE for SPEED” providing innovative, accurate and consistent engineering solutions very fast to industrial clients. He is also a Distinguished (visiting) Professor at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou and Tsinghua University in Beijing, and a Visiting Professor at Texas A&M University in College Station. His current research interests continue with the development and application of computer aided methods and tools for modelling, property estimation, process-product synthesis & design, and process-tools integration with emphasis on energy, sustainability and application of a systems approach.