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## The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Academic Symposium and Technical Conference of the Inspection, Evaluation, Reinforcement, and Modification Branch of the China Metal Structure Association

The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Academic Symposium and Technical Conference of the Inspection, Evaluation, Reinforcement, and Modification Branch of the China Metal Structure Association (IERMC-2024), hosted by the China Metal Structure Association, was held from 1 – 3 August 2024, in Chengdu, China. This conference focused on "New Methods, New Technologies, New Developments, and New Applications in the Inspection, Evaluation, Reinforcement, and Modification of Engineering Structures." Over 400 researchers and graduate students participated, engaging in comprehensive and multifaceted academic discussion on the theories and technologies related to engineering structure inspection, evaluation, reinforcement, and modification. Prof. K. F. Chung, Director of CNERC, Assistant Professor (Research) Dr. Y. F. Hu, and Postdoctoral Research Fellow Dr. M. F. Zhu were invited to attend.



Group photo of the conference



(From left): Dr. Y. F. Hu, Prof. Y. B. Shao and Prof. K. F. Chung



(From left): Dr. Y. F. Hu, Prof. G. Shi and Prof. K. F. Chung

In the afternoon of 2 August 2024, Prof. K. F. Chung was invited to give a keynote speech "Design and Engineering Application of 690 MPa High Strength Steel Structures." He shared the development journey of the CNERC with the audience. Over the past decade, the team of CNERC has conducted extensive investigations on 690 MPa high strength steel structures, focusing on the steel material, mechanical properties, microstructure, welding techniques, and structural performance. These efforts have facilitated the application of high strength steel in several practical engineering projects in Hong Kong and Mainland China, including the Tseung Kwan O Cross Bay Link Steel Bridge and the Yuen Long Sports Centre which under construction



Prof. Chung gave a keynote speech titled "Design and Engineering Application of 690 MPa High Strength Steel Structures"





The organizing committee presented a certificate and a souvenir to Prof. K. F. Chung

On 1 August 2024, with the invitation of Dr. C. Chen from Southwest Petroleum University, Prof. K. F. Chung and his team visited the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Southwest Petroleum University. They had a meeting with Prof. G Dan, the Dean of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and listened to academic reports from graduate students in Dr. C. Chen's research group. They discussed on issues such as fatigue corrosion and microstructure in the welded sections of EH690 steel. After the meeting, they also visited the Structural Engineering Laboratory of Southwest Petroleum University.



Prof. Chung, Dr. Hu, Dr. Zhu and Dr. C. Chen