

A report on Mukunda Bhimasena Rao Nagaraj, the author of thesis

**"Role of Powder Characteristics in Metal Injection Molding Process"**

I am writing in support of Mukunda Bhimasena Rao Nagaraj, a doctoral candidate at the Faculty of Technology, TBU in Zlín, pursuing studies in the Tools and Processes program.

The dissertation topic "Role of Powder Characteristics in Metal Injection Molding Process" reflects his dedication to exploring the complexities of tailoring the particle size and shape fractions for successful injection molding to produce defect-free components with superior post-sintering properties, including dimensional tolerance, in Metal Injection Molding.

Mukunda Bhimasena Rao Nagaraj has compiled his research into a collection of thematically arranged papers devoted to the aim of the doctoral work. Notably, three articles have been published in Q1 journals according to WoS, signifying the quality and relevance of his research outputs. Additionally, fourth paper is under review in Q1 Elsevier journal from August 2023, where he has obtained two positive reviews and submitted the revised version in February 2024. He received 70+ citations for his published work, and one paper was acknowledged by "PIM International", a widely accepted journal in the PIM industrial category, as a recognition of the scientific and industrial community (<https://www.pim-international.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/Vol-14-No-3.pdf>).

Mukunda Bhimasena Rao Nagaraj has shown competence in his coursework, covering crucial subjects to his topic, and this knowledge has contributed to the depth of understanding in his field of study.

What's particularly commendable is his ability to manage doctoral research alongside full-time employment as a manager of R&D Technology development unit of Indo MIM Pvt Ltd., Bengaluru, India. His internship at Indo MIM Inc., Texas, USA resulted in his promotion and moving to his present position of Senior Manager and Head of R&D Additive Manufacturing Operations in Texas. Thus, his doctoral study lasted longer than expected.

Overall, Mukunda Bhimasena Rao Nagaraj has shown commendable dedication and competency in conducting research while balancing professional commitments. I believe he has successfully contributed to the envisioned research objectives outlined in his doctoral thesis and is well-prepared to defend the dissertation.

In Zlín February 27, 2024

Berenika Hausnerova  
supervisor