

## EDITORIAL

We are pleased to welcome you as a reader of this new journal. It is our intention to bring together original papers covering the use or disposal of potentially hazardous materials. Particular attention will be paid to procedures which minimise risks, including the safe design of plant, its effective maintenance, transport standards, and the detoxification or neutralisation of residues and wastes.

We also hope to review relevant legislation, both national and international with indications of trends and cooperative ventures. Standards, codes of practice and safe levels for workers and the general population will be included as they are specified.

Means of preventing incidents involving hazardous materials will be considered in detail, illustrated where possible by case histories from which general lessons can be learned. Preferred methods of dealing with incidents of all types, hazard labelling and sources of information and advice are also included.

As interest in risk assessment grows, the Journal welcomes papers of a general or specific nature on criteria to be used and the political, technical and economic implications of accidents and incidents.

We will publish original papers describing research into hazardous products and new data pertaining to dangerous situations.

The following list, though not exhaustive, gives a general outline of the scope we hope to cover in forthcoming issues.

Properties	toxicity, corrosiveness, flammability, explosiveness, radioactivity, Information Data Banks
Safety and health hazards	manufacturing, processing, transport, storage, disposal
Legislation.	international, national, local, codes of practice, threshold values, standards
Incidents	prevention, control, clean-up, communications, labelling, sources of information and assistance, case histories
Assessment.	economic and general risk assessment, insurance, test methods

We are particularly interested in publishing papers of scientific merit which have been presented at conferences and would otherwise not be available to a wide audience. In this respect we are particularly grateful to the organisers of the 1974 Conference on Hazardous Spills, who gave us permission to approach a number of their contributors, who prepared updated versions of papers previously presented at the meeting.

Finally, we welcome contributions to a proposed correspondence section and hope to include regular book reviews and details of forthcoming conferences

The editors and members of the Editorial Board would be very pleased to hear from readers who have suggestions for modifying the scope or improving the journal in any way, as well as those who have contributions which may be suitable for publication.

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