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Publisher's note

With this issue of *Journal of Hazardous Materials*, the Publisher is pleased to announce that the editorial team will be further strengthened by the involvement of Dr Mervin Fingas as editor. Dr Fingas is no stranger to the journal, having served on the editorial board since 1986 and as guest editor of a number of special issues dedicated to on-site analysis. We are delighted that he has agreed to extend his association with the journal and would like to welcome him to the editorial team.

Dr Fingas joined Environmental Canada in 1975 and currently holds the position of Chief of the Emergencies Science and Technology Division, specialising in spill research and development, in addition to adjunct professor of the Department of Chemistry at Carleton University. His research focuses on spill dynamics and behaviour, spill treating agents, remote sensing and detection, in-situ burning and the technology of personal protection equipment. In 1996, Dr Fingas obtained his doctorate in Environmental Sciences from McGill University having worked on chemical and physical aspects of oil evaporation. He also holds masters degrees in Chemistry and Business Administration.

In addition to being author of some 550 peer reviewed papers and technical publications, Dr Fingas is active as editor of Environment Canada's Spill Technology Newsletter and the Handbook of Hazardous Materials Spill Technology. He participates in several journal editorial boards and chairs numerous standing committees including the committees on Properties and Behaviour of Chemical Spills and Analytical Development for Chemical Spills.

Authors are encouraged to submit articles to Dr Fingas at the following address from 1 October 2003:

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