
Editorial

***Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance* Launches Web-Based Manuscript Submission and Peer Review System**

The *Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance* (JMEP) is proud to announce the launch of **JMEP Manuscript Central**, the journal's web-based manuscript submission and peer review system. Manuscript Central, a product of ScholarOne, Inc., is the STM publishing industry's leading online tool for managing manuscripts through scholarly peer-review. JMEP has implemented the enhanced version 3.16 of the Manuscript Central software.



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The new process facilitates online peer review and tracking. Once a manuscript is submitted, the editor can immediately access it, facilitating quick, effective reviewer assignments. The greatest benefit of the move to a web-based system will be a reduction in the time it takes for a manuscript to go from submission to decision. Some journals that are already using Manuscript Central report a 50% reduction in turnaround time, as well as a substantial increase in the number of manuscript submissions.

Other major benefits of using Manuscript Central include the following.

- Authors submit manuscripts by uploading files directly from their computers to a secure online site and receive an instant confirmation email and manuscript number.
- Authors can track the status of their manuscript at any time of the day, from any place with an Internet connection.
- Reviewers and editors can work on journal business wherever they are online.
- The system tracks late reviews, prevents manuscripts from being stalled in the process, and eliminates postal delays, resulting in substantial improvements in speed to decision and time to publication.
- Communications, including reviews, reminders, and decision letters, are sent via email and thus arrive at their destinations almost instantaneously.
- All access is password-protected and controlled according to roles.
- As a web-based system, Manuscript Central allows real-time, dynamic interactions and updates. It also offers full online and offline support.

Authors are invited to submit new manuscripts to JMEP Manuscript Central at the following URL: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jmep>. As of January 1, 2005, submissions will be accepted through the Manuscript Central site only.

ScholarOne, Inc. provides comprehensive workflow management systems for scholarly journals, books, and conferences. Its web-based applications enable publishers to manage the submission, peer review, production, and publication processes more efficiently, increasing their profile among authors, decreasing time-to-market for critical scientific data, and decreasing infrastructure costs. ScholarOne's clients include prestigious non-profit societies, university presses, government agencies, and the world's leading commercial publishers.

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