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Publisher's note

This first issue of volume 26 has a new cover design, which is replacing the yearly change of cover that has been characteristic for JSG over the years. The change of cover is not only cosmetic, but heralds some other changes in the way the Journal is operating.

Karel Nederveen has stepped down as Publishing Editor in 2003 and I would herewith like to introduce myself as the new Publishing Editor for the *Journal of Structural Geology*.

As soon as I started working, I was struck by the large copy inflow that this journal has. This large copy inflow has presented the team of editors with some challenges regarding selection of papers. Whilst the Aims and Scope of the journal remain unchanged, it has been decided to sharpen the focus of the journal a bit to favour thematic papers over papers describing regional geological problems. As of this year, the editors will make a stricter selection based on the above, before papers are admitted to the review process. The same applies to papers that are written in poor English. The editors will reject such papers before they enter the review process.

Though increased paper inflow is in general good news for a journal, there is one downside: increased publication times. We are currently working on ways to shorten publication times. The most important tool in achieving this will be the implementation of the new Elsevier Editorial

System (EES), which will allow us to speed up the editorial process considerably. For you as a potential author this will mean that the entire process of submission, reviewing, resubmission, and acceptance notification will be done electronic only, without paper. It is still uncertain when this system will be introduced, but we expect it to be operational in 2004.

I am looking forward to the year to come. The editors, T. Blenkinshop, D. Ferrill, J. Hippertt, R. Norris and C. Passchier, and myself will do everything possible to assure high and constant quality of the journal, as well as to deliver the publishing services you rightfully expect. We will try to improve our service to you as authors and readers and push the standard of our Journal to an even higher level despite the changes in operational structure.

Casper van Dijk
Publishing Editor Earth Sciences
Elsevier

Cover:

Cover shows fold structures from an outcrop in Trinidad by David Ferrill, and an SEM-image of quartz microstructures by Neil Mancktelow. The two structures stand for the large range in scale and topics that is covered by the *Journal of Structural Geology*.