

ADDRESS TO READERS AND AUTHORS OF THE JOURNAL OF ENGINEERING PHYSICS

DEAR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS,

This January was the 35th anniversary of the first issue of our journal. The 35th anniversary might be considered an occasion to celebrate and to reflect.* Unfortunately, the past year of 1992 was the hardest in the entire history of the journal. The problems the Editorial Board were faced with fully reflected the complexity and contradictions of our life.

While performing its civic duty, the Editorial proceeded with the responsibility which is laid upon the media in science and technology to preserve the links between schools, countries, and continents. Dissemination of research results is a matter of vital importance for the development of science.

Slackening or destruction of the links between researchers will inevitably create an information vacuum which will result in unreasonable expenditure on unnecessary "rediscoveries" and "reinventions" and eventually, in the decline of the intellectual potential and development rate of society. This, in turn, will disturb the relations between the results of research and their industrial implementation, break the natural links between the producers and consumers, and ultimately, impair standards of living.

Despite the fact that our journal is rather popular in the scientific community (judging from the quantity of submitted articles and the circulation), the Editorial did not yield to the temptation of raising the subscription price. However, it should offer its apology to the authors because it did not fulfill any financial obligations, related to publication of their articles in Russian, English, or any other languages in 1992.

To keep the high standard of articles published, the Editorial will carry out a thorough review of submitted materials in accordance with its usual rules, as was done before.

It is important to mention the unselfish devotion of the large group of journal reviewers, our main assistants, in the laborious work on manuscripts.

The Editorial has always paid attention to the competent opinion of the Editorial Advisory Board members.

On the reverse side of the cover of the issue you have in your hands you can see the updated Editorial Advisory Board. We would like to express our deep gratitude to the Advisory Board ex-members whose unselfish assistance was rendered to the journal for a long time, keeping high scientific standards of the published articles. We hope the updated Editorial Advisory Board will do its best to follow the excellent traditions of the journal.

Transition to a free market economy has brought about substantial financial difficulties due to the unrestrained rise of prices of all materials, and of printing, publishing, and postal services. The Editorial is using different means to pay the huge losses on journal publication and is proposing new contracts to the authors. On condition of guaranteed payment under contract the authors will be given the possibility to publish their debatable materials. In this case, however, Editorial reserves the right to accompany them with reviews or comments reflecting its position. Higher schools, research institutions, and organization committees of conferences and seminars may send selected materials for topical issues provided that they pay all the publication expenses. Advertisements of factories, enterprises, and companies will be published under contract to be concluded in each case. We will be grateful for any assistance in providing the funds necessary for the journal's survival.

The Editorial strongly believes that to preserve the journal in its full value today means to preserve hope and the direction for tomorrow.

**EDITORIAL,
JOURNAL OF ENGINEERING PHYSICS**

*A unique reflection will be found in the Journal issue which will include all the problem lectures presented at the 2nd International Minsk Heat and Mass Transfer Forum (May 18-22, 1992).