

Editorial

Please allow me to inform all our authors and readers in this unexpected editorial about an outstanding result that our Journal achieved in the past year; namely JTAC's Impact Factor for 2003 is 1.094. This number reflects a significant increase compared to the previous years.

Let me give you a short report summarising all important factors, and actions behind this achievement. We organised our work according to the strict recommendation of the Editorial Board Meetings held in Barcelona 2002, and in Budapest 2003.

The major actions taken and areas of increased emphasis were the followings:

- We became stricter on the required scientific level of the submitted manuscripts and two independent referees' recommendations are required. Needless to say that in order to provide this scientific background we needed to build an extensive network of acknowledged reviewers, because our Board and the team of Regional Editors would not have been able to deal with this kind of workload. Consequently the rejection rate has increased to over the 30% mark.
- We shortened the 'through-over time', referring to the time lapse between submission and publication.
- Extra attention was given to references, encouraging the authors to search for relevant and recent publications with special interest in papers published in Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry.
- We sent every Issue to the Printing house in time to assure on-time publication.
- The popularity of JTAC has noticeably increased with the wider availability of the electronic version of the Journal on Kluwer's and on the Akadémiai Kiadó's WebPages making it easier for individual researchers to access the latest results.
- Last but not least, I would like to mention our constant daily effort to keep a close personal contact with all authors and referees alike. In a world of globalisation and accelerated lifestyle this is a well received and appreciated feature of our style of communication. One of the 'by-products' of this effort is the forthcoming publication of a booklet, 'Who is Who in Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry', containing contact details and short CVs of nearly 250 top scientists. The motivation behind compiling this publication was to introduce the top role-players to each other and to provide much information about our leading scientists to the upcoming new generation.

It goes without saying how happy we are about this incredible result and here we would like to ask all for your assistance in keeping up this high standard in the future.

J. Simon

Editor-in-Chief