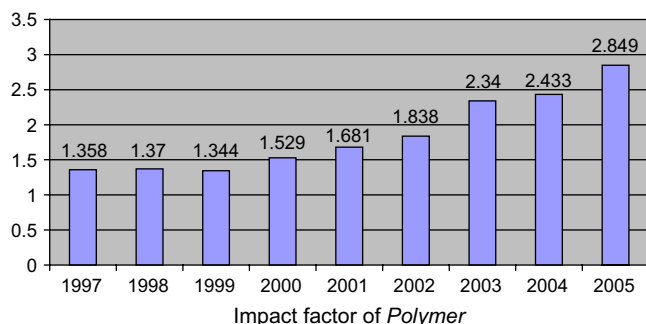


Publisher's note

Welcome to the first issue of *Polymer* for 2007!

The latest (2005) impact factors were released by Thomson ISI in June 2006. As the graph below indicates, the impact factor of *Polymer* increased by 17% from 2.433 (for 2004) to 2.849!

This reflects the continuously improving quality of the journal since 2000. It is a result of consistently high rejection rate, fast publication and balanced content, rich in both traditional and cutting-edge topics in polymer science and technology.



On 27 June 2006 we sadly lost Professor Ron K. Eby, North American Editor of *Polymer* for 23 years and more recently Honorary Editor of the journal. Ron will be remembered by us at Elsevier as a charismatic person and loyal friend who made considerable and long lasting contribution to *Polymer*.

I am very pleased to announce that from 1 January 2007 Professor Axel Müller becomes Senior Editor of *Polymer*, in addition to his position as Polymer Chemistry Editor for Europe. The group of Senior Editors now includes Professors Stephen Cheng, Axel Müller and Takeji Hashimoto thus representing both the major geographical and subject areas.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to all authors, referees, Editorial Board Members, Editors and readers for their contribution to the improving quality of *Polymer*.

Rumen Duhlev
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