
From the Editor

Welcome to the IJMC

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the *International Journal of Metalcasting (IJMC)*. We hope you find it and the other issues that follow to be both informative and interesting.

When the American Foundry Society (AFS) first contemplated the idea of publishing a new metalcasting journal, we struggled with whether a need existed for another forum. AFS already publishes *MODERN CASTING* and *Engineered Casting Solutions* magazines, Transactions representing the proceedings of the annual Metalcasting Congress, and various special publications. Why the need to publish this journal?

The answer is both simple and complex.

AFS believes the dissemination of technical information is one of the greatest contributions we can make to the continued health and stability of the metalcasting industry. Thus, one of the goals of the *IJMC* is Technology Transfer...and in its purest form.

Too often, the industry is forced to abbreviate the technical information contained in an article or presentation to meet either a required publishing format or time constraint. In addition, due to cost and time factors, AFS has moved to entirely electronic formats in issuing information on memory devices, i-pods, i-phones, i-books and i-knowledge. While this can help with the rapid distribution of information, the one-on-one interfacing with the written word is lost.

The move toward i-knowledge also has eliminated discussion and dialogue

from our approach. In this issue, *IJMC* has included the comments by our reviewers and the responses from the authors. A recorded history of this type of intercourse is unique to the *IJMC*. We hope you find this to be as informative as the articles themselves.

From the more complex perspective, *IJMC* provides an answer to the "Publish or Perish" dilemma facing our academic community. A recently completed survey of metalcasting research and instruction institutions by

publications that are the proceedings of a conference are not listed in citing sources such as Thomson Scientific. Thus the author doesn't receive credit for the work. The result is a steady erosion of good first submissions, original research and the latest technology to more scholarly journals including *Metallurgical Transactions* and the *Journal of Materials*. AFS hopes to offer a reasonable alternative.

Beyond the technical articles, we have developed the Research Review section (p. 69) in which industry researchers can provide status reports on their latest projects. We also have assembled an Editorial Board of world-renowned metalcasters from academia, industry and research organizations. This Board is prepared to ensure a rigorous and extensive review process for every article.

We want the *IJMC* to become your global community forum for metalcasting-related research. The *IJMC* is dedicated to leading the transfer of research and technology for the global metalcasting industry. Enjoy this inaugural issue, and we look forward to your comments as a regular reader and contributor to the *IJMC*.

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the AFS Research Board revealed the lack of accredited and cited journals for authors to publish metalcasting work.

While in industry, our performance metrics might be profitability, earnings per share and scrap levels, academia's performance reviews include not only the number of publications but the number of citations (how often it has been referenced and the quality of the journal or source referenced). Often,

