
From the Editor

Your Comments Are Welcome

In your hands is the third issue of the American Foundry Society (AFS) *International Journal of Metalcasting (IJMC)*, with activities and planning well underway for our fourth issue to be published in June. This is an important milestone because it will represent one year of successfully publishing *IJMC*, and will allow us to petition for citation credit with the key citation sources.

As in the past, we continue to receive tremendous levels of positive and constructive feedback from around the world. This was demonstrated during our recent visit to the 68th World Foundry Congress held in Chennai, India. During the meeting of the World Foundry Organization (WFO) General Assembly it was noted by the incoming WFO President (and *IJMC* Advisory and Editorial Board member) Prof. Milan Horacek, Brno University of Technology, Brno, Czech Republic, that the *IJMC* is not only informative, but a scholarly journal of the highest quality standards. Comments like this reinforce our mission to lead the transfer of research and technology for the global metalcasting industry.

We continue to receive paper submissions from around the world (most recently from Poland and China). As in the past, all papers received, whether previously published or new works, are processed through our rigorous review process, and then edited and revised through the tireless effort of our *IJMC* Board. In select cases, we also have reached outside the Board for expertise on certain topics to ensure the quality of our papers. The *IJMC* thanks the Board

for its guidance and tireless efforts.

This issue has an extension of the Technical Discussion and Review section that follows many of the papers in *IJMC*. This section was intended to provide you, the reader, with an opportunity to see how industry experts viewed a paper's findings and conclusions. This feedback is what helps shape every issue of the *IJMC* because it determines which papers meet the standards set for this publication. In fact, the *IJMC*

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encourages our readers to provide their feedback on published papers to ensure the continual exchange of dialogue and ideas.

This Spring 2008 issue includes a Technical Communication by Prof. John Campbell, University of Birmingham. After reading the paper, "Evaluation of Fatigue Strengths of Continuous Cast Ductile Iron," by P.R. Gangasani in the *IJMC* Fall 2007 issue, Prof. Campbell pursued additional communication with the author. What resulted is an extended discussion derived on a topic related to but not covered in the initial work. It is this type of thoughtful review, discussion and further dialogue and investigation that we hope the publishing of the *IJMC* continues to stimulate.

As a reader, you also have the opportunity to submit a paper or encourage topics for an upcoming issue of the *IJMC*. It is extremely important that we continue to receive submissions from all disciplines, including academia, research institutions, industry and individuals. This is your Journal. It is the **only** peer reviewed, referenced and cited journal published in North America that is dedicated to the metalcasting industry and should be the

first place authors turn to publish their casting-related research and advancements.

The content of this issue of *IJMC* continues to represent a mixture of subject matter to address the diverse needs of our industry. While the *IJMC* may focus a future issue on a specific metal, process or technology, its core mission is "Leading the Transfer of Research and Technology for the Global Metalcasting Industry." First and foremost, this means serving the AFS membership, so every AFS Corporate Member receives a complimentary subscription to the *IJMC*.

Enjoy your current issue and we look forward to seeing you again at the Technical Sessions at the upcoming CastExpo'08 and Metalcasting Congress in Atlanta on May 17-20 and back here in June.



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