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# From the Editor

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## Welcome Back

Welcome to the second issue of the *International Journal of Metalcasting (IJMC)* published by the American Foundry Society (AFS). Since the inaugural issue in the Fall, we have received tremendous levels of positive and constructive feedback from around the world. This feedback is necessary for the *IJMC* to be an informative and scholarly journal of the highest quality standards that publishes the latest advancements in metalcasting research, technology, innovation and information transfer.

In pursuit of this goal, the *IJMC* Advisory and Review Board examined the best of the recently presented works from the 2007 Metalcasting Congress, solicited papers from world-renowned authors and opened a "Call for Papers" for new submissions. All papers received, whether previously published or new works, have been rigorously reviewed, edited and revised through the tireless effort of our *IJMC* Board. Since the *IJMC* relies on its Board for guidance, a great effort was made to assemble experts representing the various disciplines and fields of metalcasting.

The expertise of the Board can be seen in the Technical Discussion and Review section that follows several of the papers published in both the *IJMC*'s inaugural issue as well as this one. This section provides you, the reader, with an opportunity to see how industry experts viewed the 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* encourages our readers to

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

As a reader, you also have the opportunity to submit a paper for an upcoming issue of the *IJMC*. It is extremely important that we continue to receive submissions from 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.

Member receives a complimentary subscription to the *IJMC*. In addition, we sent the inaugural issue to all AFS Technical Committee Members.

But the *IJMC* also wants to spread the word of metalcasting. As a result, complimentary subscriptions have been given to all Foundry Educational Foundation (FEF) and metalcasting-focused colleges and universities. In addition, the inaugural issue was sent to technical and trade organizations, libraries, government groups and other interested parties around the world.

The difficulty with the production of a quality journal and its distribution is the

expense. This is where we need your help. The *IJMC* subscription rate is reasonable. If you are an AFS Corporate Member, consider purchasing

additional subscriptions for others in your organization who could benefit from staying abreast of metalcasting's latest technical advancements. In addition, you could spread the word at AFS chapter meetings and other venues. You could even sponsor a subscription for your local AFS Student Chapter, FEF school or school library.

Welcome back. Enjoy your second issue and we look forward to seeing you again in April.

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***IJMC is the only peer reviewed, referenced and cited journal published in North America that is dedicated to the metalcasting industry.***

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In terms of the content of this issue of *IJMC* (and subsequent issues to come), take note of the 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

