

Setting the Pace for Innovations in Advanced Cement-Based Materials

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"Our vision is to promote and stimulate the pace of innovation in advanced cement-based materials."

One year ago *Advanced Cement Based Materials* was launched. Since that time, we have worked diligently to accomplish the vision set in our editorial in the first issue. Our continued commitment to making our vision a reality is reaffirmed in this first issue of Volume 2.

After a successful first year the Journal is well on its way to becoming a world-renowned source of the latest in technological advances in research on advanced cement-based materials. The first volume of the Journal featured a wide variety of original research manuscripts including: "Propagation of Ultrasound Through Hydrating Cement Pastes at Early Times," "Matrix Cracking and Interface Debonding in Fiber-Reinforced Cement-Matrix Composites," "On the Shear Behavior of Engineered Cementitious Composites," "A Study of Rheological and Mechanical Properties of Mixed Alkali Activated Slag Pastes," and "Determination of the First-Crack Strength and Flexural Toughness of Steel Fiber-Reinforced Concrete." The authors come from many points of the global community, bringing together a diverse pool of expertise.

A unique feature of the Journal is the Review Articles. These articles summarize recent advances in relevant topics and are prepared by recognized authorities in their fields. Examples of Review Articles published in the first volume include: "Nanostructure of C-S-H: Current Status," by H.F.W. Taylor; "Fracture Mechanics of Cement Mortar and Plain Concrete," by B.L. Karihaloo, A. Carpinteri, and M. Elices; and "Status of Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Reinforcement Development and Cement Based Research Needs," by C.W. Dolan and A. Nanni.

The Journal has also featured focus columns. The

European and Asian Development columns focused on "Ultra-Fine Cements for Special Applications." The Technology Transfer column, edited by Jan Skalný, has included interviews with a wide range of experts in the field including Dean E. Stephan, President of Charles Pankow Builders; Dr. Gunnar M. Idorn of Ramboll & Hannemann A/S, Denmark; and Thomas J. Pasko of the Federal Highway Administration.

Although only in its first year, the Journal already is being Indexed/Abstracted by the following: ISI SciSearch; ISI Research Alert; Engineering Index; Polymer Contents; and the Ceramic Abstracts. This is an impressive achievement for a newly launched journal.

In upcoming issues, the Editors hope to feature articles written by industrial representatives, conveying the needs of the end-user and ways of accelerating the process of transferring newly acquired knowledge of researchers into practical applications. Future original research articles include: "Effect of Supplementary Cementing Materials on the Composition of Cement Hydration Products," "Influences of Mixing Methods on the Microstructure and Rheological Behavior of Cement Pastes," "Determining Cement Composition by FTIR Spectroscopy," and "A Method to Determine Moisture Diffusivity in Concrete from Measured Moisture Profiles."

All in all, the first year has been tremendous and we look forward to an even more exciting second year. We wish to thank the authors, reviewers, and especially the readers for helping to make this a successful venture. Your comments and suggestions are most welcome. You have let us know that our vision is a vision of many. We will continue our mission of providing a publication source for top-notch research in advanced cement-based materials.