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Cement & Concrete Composites

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/cemconcomp

Publisher's Note

Welcome to the first issue of *Cement & Concrete Composites* for 2009!

The journal's impact factor has grown steadily in the last three years: the latest (2007) impact factor is 0.962*. *Cement & Concrete Composites* is currently listed as the No. 3 journal (in terms of impact factor) out of 34 journals in the subject category Construction & Building Technology* and No. 6 out of 21 journals in the subject category Materials: Composites*.

Along with the effects of electronic publication of the journal, one major reason for the increasing impact factor is the strict acceptance criteria imposed by the Editors and the referees. Recent rejection rates have been higher than 70%.

Last year both Ghani Razaqpur and John McCarter stepped down as Associate Editors. We would like to thank both Ghani and John for their major contributions to the journal during the last three years.

We are very pleased to welcome Mr. Dale P. Bentz of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), USA, as the new Associate Editor of the journal.

Dale obtained his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland in 1984 and his M.S. in Computer and Information Science from Hood College (Maryland) in 1991. Along with industrial research experience at W.R. Grace & Co., a visiting professor position at the Technical University of Denmark (supported by the Knud Højgaard Foundation), and extensive humanitarian work

in both Mexico and Bolivia, Dale has been employed as a chemical engineer within the Materials and Construction Research Division at NIST since 1984. His research interests include experimental and computer modeling studies of the performance properties of building materials including fire-resistive materials, cement, and concrete. He has been a recipient of an IR-100 award (1987), the RILEM L'Hermite medal (1998), the Brunauer Best Paper Award from the Cements Division of the American Ceramic Society (1997), the American Concrete Institute Wason Medal for Materials Research (2007), and the Expanded Shale, Clay, and Slate Institute Frank G. Erskine award (2007). He has published over 200 papers and has been the recipient of one patent.

We wish Dale success in his editorial work on *Cement & Concrete Composites*.

On behalf of Elsevier, I would like to take the opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all authors, referees, Editorial Board Members, Editors and readers for their personal contributions to the improving quality of *Cement & Concrete Composites*.

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