

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF FLUID POWER 10TH ANNIVERSARY

In the past, there had been little opportunity for researchers in fluid power to publish their work in a universally accessible forum. Other venues existed, but there was no guarantee that the reviewer would be an expert in fluid power. Nearly ten years ago, my colleagues and I at Fluid Power Net International (FPNI) had a vision for filling this gap by creating an international forum for researchers in fluid power from all over the world to present their work in a journal reviewed by other experts in the fluid power arena. The *International Journal of Fluid Power* was thus born, the first issue being published in March of 2000.

Nearly ten years later, I am very proud that the *International Journal of Fluid Power* continues to live up to the original vision of those of us at FPNI. Since the establishment of the *Journal* we have presented 26 different fluid power software tools and have introduced 26 fluid power research centres from four different continents. Authors from 32 countries have submitted papers to the *International Journal of Fluid Power* during the last nine years. More than 300 papers have been submitted and reviewed since 2000. Additionally, I am pleased to report that the number of papers submitted by North American authors continues to grow. Last year, 10 out of the 26 submitted papers were from United States or Canadian authors.

The success of the *Journal* is in large part due to the dedication and effort of many of you and I would like to express my sincere thanks for your continuous support of the *Journal*. I wish to extend a special thanks to those who have reviewed papers and submitted manuscripts. Your efforts have helped create and maintain a high level of fluid power research published in the *Journal*. A list of reviewers since the *Journal's* inception is published in this issue. My sincere thanks go to all Associate Editors for their great help and advice. I would also like to thank all 20 members of the Editorial Board for their continuous support. Additionally, I would like to express my gratitude to Robert Rahmfeld, Ganesh Seeniraj, and more recently, Katie Livergood and Richard Klop for managing the review and proof reading process throughout the years. In 2005 Margit Ostrop took over the customer service of the *Journal* and I would like to thank her for her excellent service and the improvements she has made in this important area. And finally, my thanks to Kyle Williams for coordinating the *Journal's* Fluid Power Calendar and PhD Awards and Books section and all members of the Maha team who have helped with final print preparation.

The *Journal* has been online since March 2006. The online access has strengthened the *Journal's* position and will certainly facilitate continued increase in the number of citations. The *Journal's* website has been moved to a TuTech server and thus has a new web address: <http://journal.fluid-power.net>. We have very successfully continued our co-operation with the Japan Fluid Power System Society "*Fluid Power System*", the Italian "*Oleodinamica Pneumatica Lubrificazione*" and the German "*Ölhydraulik und Pneumatik O+P*". All three agreements allow for the *Journal's* articles to be translated and published in these partner journals after publication in the *International Journal of Fluid Power*.

Despite the success of the *Journal*, we have yet to be included in the Scientific Citation index. This is one of my most important goals for the *Journal* as we move forward. The *Journal* is up for re-evaluation this year and I would like to encourage all of you to refer to your past *Journal* publications as well as the publications of others in the *International Journal of Fluid Power* more often. Currently the *Journal* is indexed by Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, Elsevier Compendex Engineering Information, European Environmental Information Database, CEDEFOP Training Village and Fachinformation Technik.

All papers are peer reviewed by at least two experts. Very often three independent reviewers are involved to ensure that the review process is fair and that the *Journal's* final publication is of the highest quality. The current rate of successfully approved papers is 46%.

Once again, I would like to thank you all for your continuous support of the *Journal*. I believe that with continued dedication and effort, the *International Journal of Fluid Power* will successfully continue its mission in offering a unique platform for high quality information about ongoing research in fluid power technology world-wide.



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