

Editor's Note

This is the first issue of the *International Journal of Forest Engineering (IJFE)* published by the Forest Products Society. The Forest Engineering research and professional communities share a great deal with our colleagues in the Forest Products end of the Forest Industry both in research and profession practice. The Forest Products Society “is an international not-for-profit technical association founded in 1947 to provide an information network for all segments of the forest products industry – from standing tree to finished product.” We are united in the business of the forest industry, we desire complete raw material utilization, we see efficiency and safety as key elements in our respective work activities, and we have a similar need to operate in an environmentally and socially acceptable manner. In other words, joining the Forest Products Society is a good fit for the *IJFE* and a good fit for Forest Engineering professionals and researchers.

The structure of the review and publication process for the *IJFE* will continue essentially the same as in the past. I am continuing as the Technical Editor, and the Editorial Board continues to function as a primary element in setting the direction and standards of the *IJFE* through the manuscript review process. With the current issue, the focus has been continuity, therefore, very little is visibly different about the *IJFE*. Over time, new elements will become apparent. We intend to reintroduce a range in paper types. In the recent past, all or nearly all papers published were classed as technical papers. In the future, we will consider publication of technical notes, review papers, book reviews, and even timely editorials. All of these categories have been previously included in the *IJFE*, but have fallen into disuse over the years. Development of publication policies for these other classes of papers will be forthcoming.

With a more secure future that publication by the Forest Products Society brings to the *IJFE*, it is up to all of us in the Forest Engineering community to step forward with high-quality, forward thinking manuscripts that provide useful information for forest landowners, Forest Engineering practitioners, and researchers worldwide. Only through continued publication of new ideas and developments in Forest Engineering can the *IJFE* thrive.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the special assistance of Dennis Dykstra, who served as Guest Associate Editor for the last two issues of the *IJFE*. Dennis managed the review of four papers in order to provide coordination of reviews for a series of papers in one case and to allow me to recuse myself in a case where I had personal involvement with a manuscript.

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Technical Editor