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## EDITORIAL



**Paul G. Roetling**  
Editor

### ***Another Year Has Passed***

As I said in this column a year ago, a lot of paper has passed over my desk since JEl was started. It is probably a sign of this editor's age, but two years of publication have gone by very quickly.

This is the first issue of Volume 3. Volume 2 contained a total of 384 pages and 36 technical papers. One new feature in Volume 2 was a special section on nonimpact printing that was a major part of the third issue. I wish to thank Eric Hanson once again for guest editing that special section.

In the late spring of 1993, another change occurred, namely, the manuscript submittal rate rose rather suddenly. Apparently, JEl is becoming better known. Although I am writing this editorial in early December and therefore do not have a final count for the year, the number of papers submitted is already about 60% more than the total for the previous year. The quality of papers submitted, on average, seems to remain about constant. Some are excellent, but just as I reported last year, we have had to reject about 20% to 25% of the papers submitted, either for lack of novelty, severe lack of clarity, or a subject matter that was simply inappropriate for this journal.

The peer review process is essential to an archival journal, but it still takes time and effort. We continually add more referees to our list, and yet we have pressed some referees into service for several reviews each year. We still need two referees (at least) per paper, so if you wish to volunteer, just let me know. The authors, of course, wish the referees would respond more promptly. The referees, of course, are

volunteering their time and get very little thanks for their efforts. They do, however, get my sincere gratitude for a job well done.

In addition to the referees, many staff members at the IS&T and SPIE offices, as well as at the editor's and associate editor's offices, have helped to publish the journal. They, too, have my sincere gratitude for their continuing dedication.

If you ever have a suggestion for how to improve JEl, have a comment on anything in the journal, or wish to volunteer as a referee, you can contact me by paper mail or electronic mail at the addresses on the masthead. We appreciate your comments.

We hope you had a good holiday season, that your new year is off to a good start, and that JEl is satisfying your needs for an archival journal on electronic imaging.