

WELCOME TO THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CORROSION AND SCALE INHIBITION

In this introduction to a new journal, which was organized with our direct involvement, we are not going to speak of the role of inhibitors in the protection of metals from corrosion and scaling. This role is well known to everyone who visited this page on purpose rather than by accident. Instead, we would like to share the reasons that inspired us to create this journal, as well as its purpose and objectives, with our colleagues.

The reason for the creation of this journal is that specialists in the field of inhibitor protection feel a lack of information.

There is a reasonable number of journals that publish scientific and applied materials in the field of corrosion and corrosion protection. Papers on the theory and practice of metal protection by inhibitors are scattered among these journals and among various conference proceedings. Inhibitor specialists lack their own information periodical, though the inhibitors science is specific and often reaches far beyond the scope of traditional corrosion. Sometimes information has to be extracted bit by bit from various publications, including those that are hard to access. We are sure that the science about inhibitors and the engineering aspects of their use deserve their own information source. A journal or proceedings of regular specialized conferences can play the role of such a source.

When choosing between a journal and a conference, we choose a journal. Proceedings of a conference cover scientific events only intermittently. On the other hand, a journal allows one to monitor it in almost real time. The delay is determined by the time that the editorial office and the print shop require to handle a manuscript and can be reduced to just a few months. However, it occurs quite often that information should be delivered to the reader even more quickly. This promptness can be ensured by computer technologies. That is why we decided to create an Internet-based journal.

Choosing the language was not a problem here. Being involved in publishing Russian-language scientific journals, we know that papers published there reach foreign readers only on rare occasions. We are certain that our readers and authors are familiar with this problem. Because of this, it often happens that researchers from various countries have to carry out the same research. We are sure that a specialized Internet journal on corrosion inhibitors should be issued in English. In fact, today all scientists, even if they cannot speak English, at least read in this language. This expands the reading and publishing audience and gives an international status to the journal.

Currently two kinds of scientific journals exist: subscription based ones, *i.e.*, those selling information, and so-called “open” journals where publication of articles is funded by their authors. We believe that the second option is optimal. A reader may be unaware what kind of materials he/she will need tomorrow. No one

knows what materials a particular journal will publish next year, while this knowledge is needed to decide which journals to subscribe. A reader should not be forced to search for ways to buy papers published years ago. We are dedicated supporters of free access to information. A reader has a right to know where he/she can find a needed publication for free, now or after years. To do so, nothing will be required except a computer with Internet access.

In the majority of cases, the costs of publication are paid back. Free access to information about inhibitors ensures that the latest achievements of the inhibitor science are implemented and increases the citation index. As a result, new agreements and contracts may be signed and grants may be obtained. In fact, we pay organization fees to participate in a conference and to be able to communicate our developments to a comparatively narrow circle of people. In an open journal the author is paying for the free reading of his paper at any time a reader needs it.

We hope that the payment for publication will limit the stream of unquestionably unpromising manuscripts. However, in spite of this, we believe it necessary to use scientific reviewing, even if in simplified form. The quality of a paper should be certified by scientists who are members of the Editorial board. We believe that the possible reviewers should be named by the authors themselves in order to avoid a conflict of interest.

We intend to publish original papers and reviews in the journal. However, in the beginning we'll also publish translations of papers issued in national journals over the past years but never published in English. Of course, this should not violate the copyrights of the original journals. The authors should agree on the translation of their papers with the respective journals. A reference to the original publication generally enhances the status of a national journal.

To summarize, we offer an international English-language peer-reviewed Internet journal with open access that publishes papers on scientific and practical aspects of inhibitor protection of metals to your attention.

So welcome to the International Journal of Corrosion and Scale Inhibition!

From the Editorial Board: *Yu. I. Kuznetsov, N. N. Andreev, and S. S. Vesely*