
Editorial

The *European Journal of Industrial Engineering* (EJIE) has entered its third year. We are pleased to see that both the number and quality of submissions to EJIE have been increasing. Quality has been the only criterion in the evaluation of the submitted papers. As a result, about three-quarters of the submitted papers in the year 2008 have been rejected.

An important goal of EJIE has been to have a quick review process of less than ten weeks (from submission to initial decision). This ensures that not only authors know the outcome of the evaluation process as soon as possible, but also that the latest developments and advances are made available without delay to professionals, academics, researchers and practitioners. Maintaining this goal has been a challenge that required the full commitment of the reviewers and editorial board members. The goal has been maintained for more than 90% of the papers submitted during the year 2008. For the remaining papers, the initial decision exceeded the target value of ten weeks by only a couple of weeks. It should be noted that the target of having an initial decision within ten weeks does not hinder quality in any way. The editorial decision is based on the judgement of three (and, in many cases, four) independent expert reviewers and a paper is accepted only if all the referees agree with the publication of the paper at the end. In short, EJIE has become a speedy and high-quality periodical.

Starting from the year 2008, EJIE has been indexed in several databases, including Compendex and Scopus. In order to increase the recognition and impact of the journal, the editors have initiated the process for including EJIE in the *Journal Citation Reports* (JCR) maintained by Thomson-Reuters.

We are grateful to the editorial board members and are certainly indebted to the many referees for their timely and detailed reports, which have improved the quality of the published papers considerably. Moreover, we wholeheartedly thank the contributing authors for their valuable work.

Editors

Ali Allahverdi, Rubén Ruiz and Jose M. Framinan