



Welcome to another edition containing papers of general interest. In this issue, you will find a total of six papers, four of them are mining-related and the rest metallurgy.

This is a typical example of how the *Journal* intends to maintain a 50/50 split of papers between mining and metallurgy. The topics related to mining include practical modelling of long-term production scheduling, future trends in the international reporting codes, evaluation of mineral resources carrying capacity, and the prediction of flyrock and flyrock-related fields.

Metallurgical papers include a nonlinear prediction model with mass transfer theory and expert rules for refining low-carbon ferrochrome, shock heating of quartz used in silicon and ferrosilicon production, and optimization of chlorite and talc flotation using the experimental design methodology.

It is important to note that the *Journal* continues to receive papers from the international community, as only two out of the six papers in this edition are from South Africa. This is in line with *Journal* editor Professor Rosemary Falcon's observation in May 2020, that approximately 70% of the papers submitted for publication are from international sources. With the *Journal*'s latest improved impact factor, this trend is expected to continue.

Enjoy the December edition of the *Journal*!

**B. Genc**