

Note from the editor

Liturgy is like a strong tree whose beauty is derived from the continuous renewal of its leaves, but whose strength comes from the old trunk, with solid roots in the ground.

~ Pope Paul VI (Roman Catholic Pope 1897-1978)

The significance of the quote becomes apparent when the renewal of the Journal in terms of its presentation is considered. However, although the leaves may be new, the strength of the Journal is derived from its solid roots and trunk, and will remain so within its new guise.

The submission of potential articles for publication in the Journal continues to grow at a satisfying rate - not only in numbers and in quality, but also in diversity when the current international representation in the Journal is considered. In this edition, eight of the 15 articles included have a non South African author(s). The Editorial Panel of the Journal also reflects this cosmopolitan composition as does the current list of active referees of the Journal.

The first article in this edition provides an interesting trend analysis on research in the field of Industrial Engineering. It is followed by an article providing insight into South Africa's performance with reference to inventive outputs and international patents. These two articles provide some interesting guidelines for the road to be taken particularly by South African industrial engineers.

The third article discusses enterprise architecture and in particular focuses on the practicality thereof. This is followed by a series of articles on classical industrial engineering topics: productivity modeling, an analysis of a parallel system with preparation time for repair, a supply chain model incorporating demand forecasting and information sharing, a maintenance model with inspection methodologies and risk management, an assessment of project management maturity, and a concurrent engineering model.

The next article investigates the social sustainability performance of the petroleum industry - a Nigerian case study. This is followed by three articles investigating issues regarding a steam thermal power plant.

The Journal concludes with two articles on the availability of skilled artisans in South Africa and critical success factors for small contractors in the South African construction industry.

As ever, the content of this edition of the Journal confirms the wide scope of Industrial Engineering concepts in terms of application. Enjoy reading!

Susan Adendorff