



## FROM THE EDITOR.....

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In the year 2005 when I first became the Editor of 'ENGINEER', my maiden editorial composed for the January issue started with the paragraph pinpointing the value of publication, thus;

*"Research and Development is the basis on which scientific as well as Engineering progress is made. However, research and development done in isolation will neither help the researcher nor the public as a whole, as it will not get critical evaluation on fundamental principles and practicality in application. This is where Publication assumes its all important role."*

Not content to desist at that, I was compelled to elaborate on the specific nature and attributes of our profession which demand new knowledge and products of Engineering to be critically evaluated by stating that;

*"Even more than in other fields of science, Engineering research needs to go through the 'grind' to become accepted, since its application is direct and practically oriented. In the countries where most of the Engineering research and development is done, publication is the major tool for dissemination, review and evaluation. It is through this process the Engineering products, which are efficient, practical, and safe as well as economical, originate for the overall well being of the public."*

Through these twelve years which I have been editing your journal, in my own capacity I have endeavoured to make it more visible to the target audiences by improving presentation, publishing regularly, making the contents available in the cyber space and exposing the journal to international indexing services. After making the journal, including back issues, available online through the web portal '**Sri Lanka Journals on Line**' (SLJOL) from three years ago, I am happy to report that through and extensive evaluation our journal has now been included in the '**Emerging Sources Citation Index**' (ESCI) maintained by Thomson Reuters and Clarivate Analytics. What this means in essence is that papers published in the ENGINEER will now be internationally identified and cited if the content is worthy.

Therefore, now I am in a better position to re-state a fact and re-make an appeal which I first did twelve years ago;

*"Practicing Engineers are seldom motivated to write research papers leaving this particular aspect almost exclusively in the domain of the academics. Our profession needs to share knowledge not only from academics but also from the experiences of practicing and research Engineers. Therefore, it is my humble appeal to all professional Engineers, to put into organized thought and then to the written word, your research, experience or innovations, for the benefit of the profession and eventually the country and the public."*

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