

Inaugural editorial

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Editorial

We are pleased to introduce to you the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Building Performance Simulation* (JBPS) – the official journal of the International Building Performance Simulation Association (IBPSA).

IBPSA was established in 1986 as a non-profit international society of computational building performance simulation researchers, developers and practitioners, dedicated to improving the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of new and existing buildings worldwide. The building industry, without a doubt, is one of the most important industrial and economical sectors influencing the quality of life and the environment.

Computational simulation is increasingly employed to aid in the design, operation, or management decision making process and offers the potential to cope adequately with building performance related concerns, as well as with the construction process. The development, evaluation, use in practice and standardization of this technology is therefore of growing importance. For building design, construction, operation, maintenance and management activities, there is also an urgent need for the integration of 'generally applicable' and 'generally accepted' methods and tools, for various applications, each having various levels of complexity and/or various types of end-users. Technology transfer is also an important issue within the building simulation field.

IBPSA aims to take a leading role in the promotion and development of building simulation technology and provide a forum for researchers, developers and practitioners to review building performance simulation developments, facilitate evaluation, encourage the appropriate and correct use of software programs, address standardization, accelerate integration and technology transfer. This journal is a key part of achieving this aim.

The JBPS is an international refereed journal, publishing only articles of the highest quality that are original, cutting-edge, well-researched and of significance to the international community. The journal also publishes original review papers and researched case studies of international significance. The JBPS aims at being a reference and a powerful tool to all those professionally active and/or interested in the methods and applications of building performance simulation.

The journal will provide authors with fast publication and dissemination of their research to a wide audience in both print and online at the dedicated journal homepage www.informaworld.com/jbps. Readers will benefit from access to 'online early' articles at the journal homepage and the ability to sign up for table of contents alerting (including RSS feeds) when new articles and issues are published (see www.informaworld.com/alerts).

The first steps towards the launch of this new journal were taken about five years ago when it became increasingly clear that no existing journal catered to the specific topic of building performance simulation. We are happy that the journal became a fact shortly after the 20th anniversary of IBPSA.

We would like to express our sincere thanks and deep gratitude to many colleagues and organizations (too many to name here) for their full support of the journal. We are particularly grateful to all the members of the IBPSA Board of Directors and the Editorial Board for their encouragement and commitment.

Finally we thank the publisher, Taylor & Francis, for sharing our vision and making the journal a reality. In this respect, we particularly wish to thank Meloney Bartlett, Rachel Moore, Elizabeth Thompson, Sophie Caples and Kayoko Ikeshiro for their wonderful support without which this journal would not have been established.

We look forward to welcoming you as readers and authors of this exciting new journal.

Ian Beausoleil-Morrison
Jan Hensen