

Name of Journal :

Mechanics Based Design of Structures and Machines

Reported period:

January 1, 2013 – May 23, 2014

Name and position of submitting person:

Steven A. Velinsky, Technical Editor and Professor, University of California, Davis

1. Journal thematic areas

DESCRIPTION: Emphasizing contemporary research of immediate and potential application to aerospace, automotive, civil and mechanical engineering fields as well as naval architecture, Mechanics of Structures and Machines contains analytical, numerical, and experimental contributions of permanent interest to research engineers. In addition to classical applications such as structures and machine analysis, the journal encourages submission of new fundamental and interdisciplinary contributions of mechanics in emerging application areas such as robotics, automotive, space structures and smart structures. Other technical areas of interest include high-speed computing, numerical methods, structural optimization, variational methods, stability, fatigue and fracture mechanics, plasticity, and related basic applied mechanics and mechanics-based design.

2. Editorial board

The journal has an Editor-in-Chief, S.A. VELINSKY, and 25 Associate Editors as follows: M. AMABILI, G. K. ANANTHASURESH, S. AZARM, N. BANICHUK, D. BESTLE, M. CECCARELLI, K. H. CHANG, S. CHO, K. K. CHOI, J. CUADRADO, Q. J. GE, A. GHOSAL, G. HULBERT, P. LAROCHELLE, J. LOGO, J. MCPHEE, Z. MROZ, A. MUELLER, B. RAVANI, W. O. SCHIEHLEN, S. SINHA, W. STRONGE, D. TORTORELLI, W.-C. XIE, E. ZAHARIEV

3. Publisher

Taylor and Francis

4. The short characteristics of the paper submissions recorded during reported period, comparison to the previous data

2013 had 176 submissions. This is in comparison to the following data: 2012: 99 submissions, 2011: 85 submissions, 2010: 85 submissions. Since co-sponsorship with IFToMM, the number of submissions has grown tremendously. The journal is able to publish about 28 papers per year in 4 issues. Accordingly, the journal now has a backlog and additionally, the acceptance rate has had to drop considerably. Thus far in 2014, the journal has had 71 submissions, and is thus on track to over 170 submissions for 2014.

5. Discussion of journal impact factor (if applicable)

We have not tracked impact factor for the last year. However, efforts have been imposed to increase the impact factor and these should be shown in the next couple of years. For example, all papers are now required to refer to earlier work in this journal with a target of 10% of references. While self-referencing is not as important as outside referencing, this will, at minimum, get authors used to referring to papers from this journal. The biggest effect will be seen for the large change in number of submissions and thus reduction in acceptance rate.

6. Efficiency of publishing (submission to publication time)

Please see the tables below

7. Rejection rates

Subject to interpretation based on the tables below. However, in summary for calendar year 2013, there were 203 paper reviews decided of which 26 were accepted or conditionally accepted. As such, the rejection rate was about 87%.

8. Review procedure

Papers are submitted to the ScolareOne site. The Editor decides whether they are suitable for review. Papers are assigned to an Associate Editor to oversee the review process. After obtaining a minimum of 2 peer reviews, the Associate Editor makes a recommendation to the Editor and the Editor makes the decision.

9. Other relevant information

Calendar Year 2013 Statistics

Submitted	Original	Revised	Total
Innovative Application Briefs	14	5	19
Research Papers	162	27	189
Total	176	32	208

Total paper reviews completed: 203

Papers in review process: 5

Review Results: Reject: 125; Reject and Resubmit: 17 Major Revision: 19; Minor Revision: 16; Accept or Conditional Accept: 26

May 23, 2014 Statistics

Submission Statistics	YTD	MTD	Prior 12 Months	Monthly Avg. Prior 12 Months
Innovative Application Brief	2	0	14	1.2
Research Papers	69	9	177	14.8

Journal Statistics	MTD	Prior 12 Months
Avg. days from submission to first decision	0.0	57.4
Avg. Reviewer turnaround time (days) - Original	11.0	24.9
Avg. Reviewer turnaround time (days) - Resubmission	0.0	21.6
Avg. Reviewer turnaround time (days) - Revision	1.0	15.8
Avg. Time to Assign Reviewer (days) - Original	8.0	20.9
Avg. Time to Assign Reviewer (days) - Resubmission	0.0	8.0
Avg. Time to Assign Reviewer (days) - Revision	1.0	9.5
Avg. days from submission to final decision	0.0	67.2

Other Statistics

Accept Ratio (prior 12 months)	32 : 82 (39.0%)
Total Pending Manuscripts	22