
From the Editor's Desk

In the last issue of the Journal we have reported the successful conclusion of SOJOM 2000. In this issue, three technical papers presented at SOJOM 2000 are published, which include the Keynote paper entitled "Role of Repair Welding in the management of Power Plant Components" by Dr. Placid Rodriguez et al. This paper showing a refreshing outlook on the subject of repair welding points to "analysis necessary prior to undertaking repair welding work for a ... comprehensive and realistic repair approach" in contrast to the "pragmatic approach ... emphasis here is on the performance aspect of repair, while the analysis stage is neglected." Illustrating through case histories of successful weld repair of several turbine components, Dr. Rodriguez reiterates the importance of looking carefully and analysing the available histories of failure cases for the understanding of a "generic class of failures" enabling appropriate remedies.

The history of fabrication and erection of ancient steel monuments in India has in recent times, as in the past, generated deep scientific and analytical interest. Klaus Roessler's paper "The use of different joining methods in Ancient Indian Steel Monuments" looks analytically at the probable processes used in the fabrication and erection of several ancient steel monuments in India.

The second announcement for the "International Welding Conference – IWC 2001 on Advance's in Welding and Cutting Technology" to be held on 15-17 February 2001 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, is published in this issue of the Journal. With Indian industries' move for a bigger share of the world market, there are also signs that the joining, cutting and fabricating industries are seeking their rightful place in this scenario. This International Conference will present the different and latest aspects of Welding & Cutting technology to the forum of experts. Last year's success of the IWC-1999 organised jointly by IIW and CII has led to the joint endeavour approach for the IWC-2001 also. However, efforts by all are solicited for the successful outcome of this International Conference.

Publication of the Indian Welding Journal had experienced acute financial losses till 1997, when a turn-around came with four-colour advertisements - six full pages including the covers and a Centre spread - which brought the necessary revenue to break even with the publication and circulation cost of the Journal. Even a small surplus was generated for issues published during 1998-99 (till the July'99 issue). However, the booking of colour advertisements has since taken a nose dive with a greatly reduced revenue. This means losses have again occurred for the October'99, January 2000 and the current issues of the Journal. Alarmingly, less than 50% of the available colour advertisement space is so far booked for the next issue (July 2000). Booking of Colour advertisements is indispensable for the financial survival of the Journal, a fact which once again needs the serious attention & concern of our members, particularly corporate members. In the past, members of our Council have admirably helped us acquire colour advertisements. We are appealing to you again for such help thereby averting severe financial losses of the journal.

Thank you,

Dr. P Majumdar
Editor