



Espaço Energia

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Editorial

Starting from this issue, Espaço Energia is entering a new phase. The scientific articles are now part of the “scientific” section, and continue to be the main stream of publications. These papers are reviewed in accordance with scientific criteria and the highest possible degree of impartiality, by means of a double blind reviewing process. The scientific committee is composed by renowned scientists from several universities, institutions and companies. These professionals have been responsible for assuring the excellent quality of the scientific papers published by this periodical.

The periodical’s new structure, besides preserving valuable scientific content, aims at stimulating initiatives with practical emphasis towards innovation, which may be seen through the application of the knowledge acquired by means of research and development and related projects. Thus, this periodical presents new sections for specific aims, not necessarily containing previously unpublished scientific contributions, but with the usual presentation accuracy and quality claimed by the scientific methodology.

The four new sections, which will be alternated in the future issues, will present papers from authors invited by the editorial board and by the new technological innovation committee. The papers will be evaluated by both committees by means of a reviewing process which will guarantee their technical and presentation quality.

The “state-of-the-art” section aims at describing, in a detailed fashion, a relevant subject within the knowledge areas covered by the magazine. The

aim of the “technology” section is to present a short paper describing a new technology which is being conceived, launched or deployed in the energy sector. The “academy” section, although similar to the one previously mentioned, is related to the academic area. Finally, the “innovation” section is focused on the deployment of results obtained in innovative technology projects which have been successfully developed.

Two of these new sections are present in this issue. The “state-of-the-art” section presents a paper which describes the Brazilian biofuel programme and its importance to the world energy matrix, as well as trends for the future. This is an excellent opportunity for the reader to familiarize with the theme. The “technology” section presents an interesting paper which aims at revealing the advantages and the disadvantages of using nuclear power, making an unbiased analysis, as much as possible, of its potential.

The “scientific” section presents three papers. The first one describes a technique for setting distance relays in series compensated transmission lines. This task has been a constant challenge in the area of power system protection. The paper addresses this issue by means of a technique which makes it possible to determine the relative location of faults. The second paper analyses the impact of refrigerators replacement programmes, aimed at the lower income class, in the energy strategic planning, correlating the age of the equipments with their corresponding income class, based on official surveys developed in the last few years. The third and last paper analyses the hydraulic behaviour of Iguaçu river, attempting to optimize the hydraulic operation of its power plant reservoirs and aiming at improving the control of seasonal floods to which the cities located on the river banks are subject.

We hope that the new structure of this periodical may draw the attention of professionals of the energy sector and stimulate innovation in companies and in the sector as a whole. Paper submissions are always most welcome.

Klaus de Geus
Editor