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Journal Interviews : 2010 : The Editors of the Journal of Photopolymer Science and Technology on the Journal's Success

JOURNAL INTERVIEWS - 2010

April 2010



Journal of Photopolymer Science and Technology

Featured Journal Interview

According to a recent analysis of Essential Science IndicatorsSM data from Thomson Reuters, the Journal of Photopolymer Science and Technology (JPST) entered the database in the field of Chemistry with the highest cite count among new entrants.

JPST published its first issue in 1988. The journal is published by the Conference of Photopolymer Science and Technology (CPST). Dr. Minoru Tsuda, Professor of Physical Chemistry, Emeritus, Chiba University, and Dr. Kenichiro Nakamura of the Department of Optical and Imaging Science & Technology of Tokai University are Editors-in-Chief.

In this interview, ScienceWatch.com talks with Drs. Tsuda and Nakamura about the journal's citation achievements.

SW: Did you expect the *Journal of Photopolymer Science and Technology (JPST)* to become highly cited, or is this surprising to you?

It is a great honor for the journal to be given a high citation record. The purpose of *JPST* is to be the worldwide international publication forum for scientists and engineers in the field of photopolymer science and technology. The editors believe that the high citation record proves the support from the photopolymer community to the forum.

SW: How would you account for the increased citation rate of *JPST*?

Since the invention of the planar transistor in 1960, the photopolymers have been the hidden main player in the production of the micro-electronic devices such as integrated circuits, large-scale integration, etc.

Before 1988, the year of the start of *JPST*, the scientific and technical papers of photopolymer science and technology had been scattered into many scientific

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journals, occupying a very small part in the sea of the main field papers of each academic society. *JPST* collected those hidden papers of photopolymer science and technology in one journal and clearly showed their scientific and technological importance.

"Photopolymers have been well-known to be the most successful among many kinds of functional polymers, because of the great importance of semi-conductor devices for mankind."

SW: Was there a change in policy or editorial direction that might account for this?

We did not make any special changes. The CPST, the publisher of *JPST*, has a committee, the members of which are professional scientists of photopolymers. They invite active authors in new frontiers of photopolymer science and technology all over the world to *JPST* every year.

SW: What historical factors have contributed to the success of *JPST*?

The journal has a 22-year history. *JPST* might not have been in the *Essential Science Indicators* rankings during the initial 15 years or so. The journal may not get the top citation ranking this year. It has been, however, well-known that review papers on photopolymers from *JPST* are heavily cited.

SW: Have there been specific developments in the fields served by *JPST* that may have contributed?

Photopolymers have been well-known to be the most successful among many kinds of functional polymers, because of the great importance of semi-conductor devices for mankind. For this reason, the journal has covered mainly the field of micro-lithography.

This is a progressive field—every year we are expanding to new areas, such as electronics and computer technology.

SW: What, in your view, is this journal's main significance or contribution in the field of Chemistry?

Chemistry for advanced photopolymer science, advanced photopolymers and their applications, advanced materials for nano-patterning, photofunctional materials for electronic devices, functional polyimide and heat stable polymers, plasma-functionalization of polymer surfaces, etc. Fine chemistry and sophisticated chemistry are the big draws to our journal.

SW: How do you see your field(s) evolving in the next few years?

EUV-lithography, nanoimprint-lithography, biological applications of photo- and plasma- functionalized polymer surfaces, nanotechnology and micromachining, and sophisticated photopolymers are going to be important topics to both the field and our journal. ■

Journal of Photopolymer Science and Technology

Minoru Tsuda, Editor-in-Chief & Founding Editor and Kenichiro Nakamura, Editor-in-Chief

The Conference of Photopolymer Science and Technology (CPST), publishers

Additional information:

- *Journal of Photopolymer Science and Technology* was a New Entrant in Chemistry for the month of **December 2009**.

KEYWORDS: PHOTOPOLYMERS, COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS, LITHOGRAPHY, CHEMISTRY, NANOTECHNOLOGY, PHOTOCHEMISTRY.

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