

Twenty Five Years of the Electronics journal: the Past, the Present, and the Future

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Invited Letter

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TWENTY five years have passed since publication of the first issue of the Electronics journal. On this great occasion, we would like to recall how we reached here from there, and who were the most influential people on that path.

In year 1997, the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University of Banja Luka, also organized the first Symposium on Industrial Electronics (INDEL). The conference gathered many world-renowned and recognized researchers in this field, which was an opportunity to bring our idea about founding the journal covering different aspects of electronics into reality. Since this event until today, we managed to publish two issues of the journal annually, while the conference continued to live in parallel, but taking place every second year.

In the second half of the last century, Banja Luka was recognizable in the world by electronic industry. The town, which at the time had barely over 160000 inhabitants, was a home place for more than 10000 employees in the electronic industry. However, historical circumstances, which emerged in the former Yugoslavia at the beginning of 1990s, lead to a drastic reduction or complete shutdown of production in the field of electronics. The main motivation for starting INDEL and the journal Electronics was to preserve the tradition and world-wide recognizability of Banja Luka as a *town of electronics*.

Even though at the beginning the journal focused on national and regional boundaries, we strived to satisfy world publication standard immediately. That is why several members of the very first Editorial Board were world-renowned scientists such as: Nikolaos Uzunoglu (National Technical University of Athens, Greece), Barry Jefferies (University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom), Vojin Oklobdzija (University of California, Davis, USA), Milic Stojic (University of Belgrade, Serbia), Ilija Stojanovic (SANU Belgrade, Serbia) among many others. Two years after establishment, since 1999 (Vol. 3), we decided to publish all articles exclusively in English, which greatly influenced the global visibility of the journal.

To reach the required publication quality, we were determined to publish only original research and review papers from the very beginning. To achieve this, in addition to regular ones, we decided to publish the extended versions of the best papers from regional conferences: International Symposium on Industrial Electronics (INDEL), International Conference on Advanced Technologies, Systems and Services in Telecommunications (TELSIKS), ETRAN/IcETRAN, International Symposium on Power Electronics (Ee), International Symposium INFOTEH-JAHORINA, and Small Systems

Simulation Symposium (SSSS). Most frequently, these were awarded papers, or the papers with special recommendations provided by the reviewers. To ensure that no plagiarism issues emerge during the process, we introduced as an obligatory precondition that extended version must contain at least 30% of the new content.

As a second measure to attract high-quality papers from the authors around the globe, we decided to invite proven researchers to serve as guest editors in several special issues and sections. We will name here just a few of them: Milic Stojic, Vanco Litovski, Bratislav Milovanovic, Slobodan Vukosavic, Vladimir Katic, Zoran Jaksic, Predrag Pejovic, Ninoslav Stojadinovic. They invited researchers all over the world to report their contributions in the Electronics journal. Clearly, those papers were also reviewed as the regular ones. We use this opportunity to thank all guest editors for doing the great job in increasing the impact of the journal. To two of them, prof. Milic Stojic, from the University of Belgrade, and prof. Vanco Litovski, from the University of Nis, we devoted issues Vol. 15, No. 1, and Vol. 21, No. 2, respectively, in which we shared with our readership their rich biographies.

Here, we want to highlight invited papers that were published by renown authors in the Electronics journal: "Differential and Pass-Transistor CMOS Logic for High-Performance System," by V. G. Oklobdzija, "Modular Telecommunication Converter," by S. Cuk, "Application of Field Theory Techniques in MIC and MMIC Design," by N. Uzunoglu, "Sinusoidal Output Voltage Generation with Five-Phase Voltage Source Inverters," by E. Levi, "Modern Power Electronics Technologies for Wind Power Plants," by V. Katic, "Three-Phase Low-Harmonic Rectifiers That Apply Current Injection in the Discontinuous Conduction Mode," by P. Pejovic, "Contemporary Motion Control Systems," by S. N. Vukosavic, and "Energy Efficient Multi-Core Processing," by C. Leech and T. J. Kazmierski.

Today, Electronics journal keeps its pace with the modern research in the field of electronics. We receive contributions from all the continents and follow the strict and high-quality publication standards and practices. Obviously, this could not be done without support from reviewers, who also come from all over the world. We usually select the reviewers from our pool, meaning that they already published papers in the Electronics journal. However, we also try to expand our network by looking for external researchers with highly reputable publication track record. Many of them willing to help and we mostly receive high-quality review reports in time. We use this opportunity to thank all reviewers for their hard work and support all this time.

Recently, we extended our Editorial Board with new mem-

bers who proved to be very cooperative and helped increasing the journal visibility. We continuously receive applications, which we try to respond to as quickly as possible. We will most certainly continue on this path and look for new, highly motivated and reputable researchers, who would like to be part of our family. Aiming at highest quality, from 2021 we become a CrossRef member and from 2022 every received paper is checked against plagiarism.

In the following years, we will keep hard-working not only on preserving the stand we currently have, but also improve

our publication standards as much as possible. We will already start this year with preparations of application for evaluation of the journal by Clarivate Analytics. We believe some weak points identified earlier were addressed during the last few years. Therefore, we think we can be optimistic in expecting a positive results and feedback from the evaluators.

Finally, we would like to thank all authors and readers for being with us all these years and giving us support and strength to persevere and overcome all challenges that we faced during this journey.