

# Note from the editor

*“Sometimes we can only find our true direction when we let the wind of change carry us.”*  
- Mimi Novic

2024 had come to an abrupt end, and this is the final edition for 2024. At the end of 2023, we were still living with the effects of COVID, and continuous load shedding. But life had moved on! Load shedding is (for now at least) history. South Africa had elections in 2024, and a new Government of National Unity was established, and with that, a lot of new optimism about the future! Logistics and the broken rail network are still issues, but you can see how industrial engineering professionals are adapting to these new challenges to find solutions.

As mentioned at the end of 2017, it is now customary to evaluate how the journal is performing. Scopus ([www.scopus.com](http://www.scopus.com)) measures impact with a “CiteScore”. The CiteScore for a year is calculated as the Citation Count for the year / number of documents published in the previous three years. The Citescore for 2022 was 1.4, in 2023 it was 1.1 and 2024 is projected to be 1.2 . Our ranking with respect to the Percentile in the category, is currently stable as a Q3 journal.

Another important source for journal standing, is Scimago Journal and Country Rank ([www.scimagojr.com](http://www.scimagojr.com)), where the journal is also listed as a Q3 journal in the “Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering” subject area. It is very encouraging to observe how the number of citations per document has grown (Figure 1).

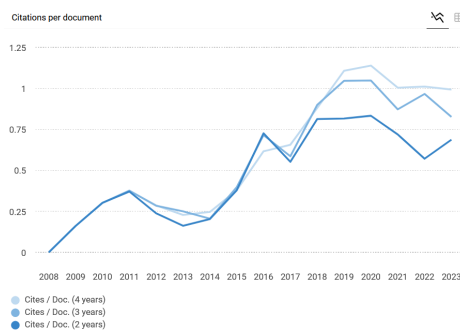


Figure 1: ScimagoJR Citations per Document

Due to timing constraints, we did not include the top rated papers from the RAPDASA conference in the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the year. This edition therefore contains the top two rated papers from the RAPDASA conference (28 to 31 October).

This edition has a total of ten articles, with seven from authors with South African connections and the balance from international authors.

Other news is that a previous Technical Editor for many years, Dr Herman Hamersma, has just been promoted to Associate Professor at the University of Pretoria, effective 1 January 2025. Congratulations Herman!

If you have suggestions on how we can take this journal forward, please let me know.

Corne Schutte  
Editor