

Editorial

Dear colleagues:

As you know, every year in June *Journal Citation Reports* (JCR©) publishes its listings for the preceding year. Drawn up by Web of Science (WoS), these listings are the result of an annual review of the world's foremost journals. The impact factor (IF) for *Materiales de Construcción* now stands at **0.960** (compared to 0.961 in 2014).

In 2015 the articles published in *Materiales de Construcción* received a total of 465 citations, 20 % more than in 2014. I should stress that only 8 % of the citations recorded by the WoS appeared in our own journal. In other words, the self-citation rate is very low, for over 90 % of the references to *Materiales* articles were published in other JCR-listed journals. Likewise significant is the immediacy of the citations, for three articles released in 2015 were cited that same year, for a Journal Immediacy Index of 0.094.

The journal is classified under 'Construction and building technology', where as 31st of a total of 61 periodicals, it holds first place in the third quartile (Q3) in this subject area. *Materiales de Construcción* fluctuates between the second and third quartiles in this category. One of the objectives of the journal's current management and editorial staff is to consolidate its position in Q2. Our journal is also listed under the (much more general) category 'Materials science, multidisciplinary', where it ranks 197th of a total of 271 journals (for a Q3 listing).

In a nutshell, these very favourable JCR© data for 2015 place our journal in a prominent and highly competitive position relative to other scientific periodicals of repute in our area of research and technology. I should emphasise, once again, that *Materiales de Construcción* is the sole Spanish building materials and construction journal that has been uninterruptedly listed in the JCR since 1998.

The Scimago Journal Rank (SJR) listings, another source of international journal quality

analysis, have also been in place since early summer. Further to that database, in 2015 *Materiales de Construcción* had an SJR of 0.523 and an h-index of 19. It stands in the second quartile in the three subject areas where it is listed: 'Building and construction', 'Materials science (miscellaneous)' and 'Mechanics of materials'. It is the highest ranking Spanish journal in all three.

These results show that the journal's contents are of interest to the scientific community targeted. Its editorial staff have observed that internationalisation has intensified substantially, for over 80 % of the articles received in 2016 were submitted by international researchers and institutions. At this time articles are being received from around the world. We believe that this success is attributable to a number of factors: the journal's high impact factors calculated by independent institutions such as WoS and Scimago; the high scientific and technical quality of the articles published (I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the journal's committee members and reviewers); the fact that since 2015 the articles are published in English only; and the open access to its current and previous issues from the journal's website (<http://materconstrucc.revistas.csic.es/index.php/materconstrucc>), a strategy that by levelling geographic barriers expands the dissemination of its contents.

We are persuaded that we should continue along these lines, furthering the quality and novelty of the articles published by implementing a rigorous editorial policy.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

Francisca Puertas
Directora de la revista "*Materiales de Construcción*"