

Letter from the Editor

Dear Reader,

*With this issue, the first of 2008, we begin the sixteenth year of publishing our journal, and we have the pleasure to inform you that the amount of interesting papers we receive for us to publish increases continuously. This is a pleasant observation, as it confirms our rising position in the editorial market and allows us to maintain a high standard of articles published. But on the other hand, some negative aspects connected with them are also visible. Due to the increasing amount of valuable papers received by our Editorial Office, the publishing procedure, year after year, takes longer. At present the period of waiting by Authors from sending their article to the time of printing is from several months up to more than one and a half years, which in the latter case makes the scientific news considerably outdated. This should be improved, and we would like to assure all readers that we are doing our best to do this. Throughout almost half of the period since the beginning of publishing *Fibres & Textiles in Eastern Europe*, which at present is certainly only a historical title, as the journal publishes problems without territorial limits, we have continuously sought ways of shortening the edition time. The simplest way would be to change our editorial policy to a two-month- or even monthly journal, but unfortunately this is impossible due to the organisational and financial capabilities of the publisher. Therefore, over the last few years we have been developing the possibility of editing more than the obligatory four issues per year by asking different scientific institutions to co-operate with us in the editorial work, and gathering articles dealing with similar problems, for example which could be presented at special events, among others. And so in 2003 we published 5 issues, as well as in 2005 – 6, in 2006 – 5, and in 2007 – 6, the last a double-issue.*

*At present I am able to state that we have made the first firm step towards achieving the editorial policy of changing *Fibres & Textiles in Eastern Europe* into a bimonthly journal. Thanks to the decision of the Authorities of the Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania to participate in our editorial work, and the agreement signed between our publisher, the Institute of Biopolymers and Chemical Fibres, and the University, beginning in 2008 we will publish five obligatory issues per year, four dated quarterly and the fifth as a January-December issue, similar to that practised in the few last years with special additional editions. The above-mentioned participation will be indicated on the first page of every issue. At the same time Professor Andrzej Ziabicki, the chairman of our Scientific Programming Board has invited Professor Sigitas Stanys, an outstanding Lithuanian scientist in the field of textile science, at present Vice-rector of the University, to join the Board. A brief biographic note of Professor Stanys you will find below. Due to Professor Vytautas Milasius having been a member of the Scientific Programming Board since 2003, our Scientific Programming Board now includes two researchers of the Kaunas University of Technology. In order to co-operate more closely in editing the journal, we have also appointed Professor Rimvydas Milasius, a leading Lithuanian scientist in the field of fibres and textiles and Head of the Department of Textile Technology at the Kaunas University of Technology, to the Editorial Committee of the journal.*

We warmly invite our Lithuanian friends to work together with us in order to continuously improve the scientific and editorial standard of our journal.

On behalf of the Publisher and all Editors

*Editor-in-Chief
Fibres & Textiles in Eastern Europe*



Bogdan Mac

Professor Sigitas Stanys, Ph.D., a new member of the Scientific Programming Board



Prof. Sigitas Stanys was born on 6 May 1956 in Kaunas, Lithuania. He graduated from the Department of Textile Technology of the Kaunas Polytechnic Institute in 1979 with a Dipl. Eng degree. After his post-graduate studies at the Kaunas Polytechnic Institute, he was awarded a PhD in 1986. His research and educational work at Kaunas University of Technology (formerly the Kaunas Polytechnic Institute) began in 1979. He was in turn an Engineer and Assistant Professor (1979-1990), Senior Reader (1990-1992), Associate Professor (1992-1993), Vice-Dean (1993-1996) and Dean of the Faculty of Design and Technology. Since 2005 he has been Vice-Rector of the Kaunas University of Technology (KTU), and at the same time professor at the Department of Textile Technology. The main spheres of Prof. Stanys' scientific interest include the structure and properties of yarns for technical and special textiles as well as the wettability and flammability of textiles and air texturing. He has published more than 40 papers in Lithuanian and international journals, has participated in numerous international conferences and is co-author of several textbooks for students on textile technology. Prof. Stanys is a representative of KTU at Autex, a member of the board of advisers and Senate of KTU, a member of the presidium of the Lithuanian Apparel and Textile Industry Association. He has given lectures for students of the International Master Studies program E-TEAM in Greece, Italy, France and the UK.