

Preface to the tenth volume of Express Polymer Letters

T. Czigány*

Department of Polymer Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Műegyetem rkp. 3., H-1111, Budapest, Hungary

Dear Readers,

The editorial of the first issue of the tenth volume provides a short review of the results and statistics of the previous years. 931 articles were published in the past 9 years, a mere 16% of the submitted ones. 84% was rejected, although a part of them contained results of the acceptable high quality, but we strove to select only cutting edge topics. This is reflected in the fact that about 60% of the articles published in **eXPRESS Polymer Letters** has been downloaded at least 1000 times, which means that these topics attracted the attention of our readers. The download statistics are also reflected in the number of citations. The most downloaded article is *Starch-based completely biodegradable polymer materials* (DOI: [10.3144/expresspolymlett.2009.46](https://doi.org/10.3144/expresspolymlett.2009.46)), with about 11 000 downloads. *The most cited article in the Web of Science (WoS)* is *The present status and key problems of carbon nanotube based polymer composites* (DOI: [10.3144/expresspolymlett.2007.39](https://doi.org/10.3144/expresspolymlett.2007.39)), which has already 178 citations. Further seven articles have more than ten citations per annum with the following titles: *Self healing in polymers and polymer composites. Concepts, realization and outlook: A review* (DOI: [10.3144/expresspolymlett.2008.29](https://doi.org/10.3144/expresspolymlett.2008.29)); *Advances in synthetic optically active condensation polymers – A review* (DOI: [10.3144/expresspolymlett.2011.15](https://doi.org/10.3144/expresspolymlett.2011.15)); *Dielectric relaxations in PVDF/BaTiO₃ nanocomposites* (DOI: [10.3144/expresspolymlett.2008.35](https://doi.org/10.3144/expresspolymlett.2008.35)); *Raman spectroscopic characterization of multiwall carbon nanotubes and of composites* (DOI: [10.3144/expresspolymlett.2012.63](https://doi.org/10.3144/expresspolymlett.2012.63)); *How carbon nanotubes affect the cure kinetics and glass transition temperature of their epoxy composites? – A review* (DOI: [10.3144/expresspolymlett.2009.73](https://doi.org/10.3144/expresspolymlett.2009.73)); *Multi-walled carbon nanotube filled polypropylene*

nanocomposites based on masterbatch route: Improvement of dispersion and mechanical properties through PP-g-MA addition (DOI: [10.3144/expresspolymlett.2008.87](https://doi.org/10.3144/expresspolymlett.2008.87)); *Crystallization kinetics of poly(lactic acid)-talc composites* (DOI: [10.3144/expresspolymlett.2011.84](https://doi.org/10.3144/expresspolymlett.2011.84)).

The journals which cite the articles of **eXPRESS Polymer Letters** most frequently are Polymer, Journal of Applied Polymer Science and Macromolecules. The h-index of **eXPRESS Polymer Letters** in WoS is 37, the present impact factor is 2.761. This indicator is being presently fiercely attacked but we consider it important as it is still one of the most important evaluation tools of scientific journals. Impact factor is a helpful compass for the young scientist generation to evaluate the relative rank and quality of various journals. Otherwise, there would be no quality-related orientation where to send their manuscripts. Additionally, nowadays the internet is full of ‘predator’ journals having titles, appearance and websites which resemble those of high quality journals with good impact factors, and WoS can help to exclude these journals.

When launching the 10th volume of **eXPRESS Polymer Letters** I wish all authors, readers and referees a successful new year and achievement of highly cited research results. Sincerely yours,



Prof. Dr. Tibor Czigány
editor

*Corresponding author, e-mail: czigany@eik.bme.hu
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