

Evolution of Superconductivity News Forum

July 26, 2013 (E25). In July 2007 we launched the online News Forum as a European experimental (time limited) joint project of IEEE Council on Superconductivity (IEEE CSC) and the European Society for Applied Superconductivity (ESAS). Initially, that European Superconductivity News Forum (ESNF) was aiming at replacing the EU-subsidized SCENET (the European Network of Superconductivity) Newsletter¹. In a few years, the steadily increasing numbers of visits to the ESNF website made it clear that we provide useful service. Consequently, both organizations decided to maintain the website indefinitely, with IEEE CSC providing limited, but essential financial support for developing and maintaining it². Eventually, in 2011, ESNF became one of the joint IEEE CSC and ESAS activities included in their Sister Society Agreement.

Annual analysis of the available statistical metadata from “Google Analytics” indicated that ESNF has been visited not only by Europeans, but by readers from around the world, with visits from the United States being by far most numerous. Consequently, some years ago we decided to eventually broaden the geographical base of our publication. That meant we had to attract volunteer Co-editors and Associate Editors from around the globe. It wasn’t easy, but finally in the first part of 2013 a sufficient number of colleagues from Asia, Australia, Europe and North America joined our effort. Our volunteer Editorial Team (ET) has now 20 members and we’re still looking for additional qualified volunteers³. Simultaneously, our International Editorial Board (IEB) was expanded to include new members from most continents. All this permits us to transform ESNF into a global edition of Superconductivity News Forum (SNF), beginning with this Issue No. 25. Although it is a new beginning, we decided to maintain the current numeration of issues and volumes to emphasize historical continuity. It is still work in progress, so please excuse possible inaccuracies and defects in the transition period which may last until the end of 2013.

We hope, our readers will find this new and increasingly global SNF to be a useful resource in their work. Please help us to further improve SNF, and also to make it more interactive. We remain receptive to all suggestions, comments and critical remarks that could advance these objectives. Changes that current readers may notice comparing Issue No. 25 with previous ESNF issues resulted from suggestions and recommendations received mainly from members of both IEB and ET.

¹Issues of that past Newsletter, published from June 1997 until July 2006 are still accessible via our section “Resources”, see the SNF home page, right column.

²All editorial and other ESNF work has been performed exclusively by IEEE CSC and ESAS volunteers.

³Any potentially interested colleague should contact the respective Co-Editor responsible for the pertinent sub-field of applied superconductivity; they are listed in “[Editorial Office](#)”.