If I were to say to you that we live in a fast-paced world these days, would you agree with me?

What used to take hours some years ago now takes seconds. Take a simple example of the digital world around us, from the smart phones we use, the way we interact with relatives, friends, and clients, the way education is being imparted to our kids at schools and universities, the way we shop, the way we make payments, and the list goes on. We were not doing all this a decade ago, and likewise, after another decade we will not be doing what we do today. All this is thanks to the fast-paced technology evolution that has been taking place, which is only going to get better with time. In such an ever-evolving world around us, be it our personal lives or our work environment, we need to get on the band wagon somehow, or else we will be left behind. This begs the question: what do we need to do? We may boast of how qualified we are, the vast experience we may have gained, but we cannot lose sight of an important realization, and that is our best credentials will become outdated very fast, unless they are continuously updated. A clear fathoming of this realization will let you willingly embark on a lifetime of learning, which will always keep you in good stead. Practicing this may be just one cog in the wheel.

Every individual wishes to do well in life, and come to think of it, what does it take to do well? Showing up at your workplace on time consistently, doing the assigned work well on or before time, may come to mind. But to get ahead of the game, be taken seriously, be considered an asset for the organization or the business being run, could take more than that. One’s professional behaviour will do this. Professionalism can come to an individual or an organization as a commitment in various guises, which could encompass being positive, maintaining integrity, honesty, reliability, and quality in whatever work is carried out, to name a few qualities. Professionalism is practiced in all professions but let us restrict ourselves here to the domain of scientists, who continue to advance their knowledge and creativity through
research. Such research is shared amongst peers and colleagues through technical communication, which takes the form of journal publications and presentations. Professional societies or publishing houses lead such endeavours, maintaining high standards for their publications, not only through peer-reviews of the research work but also observing high level of publishing quality. Scientists aspire to publish their research work in high quality journals which, besides sharing, can likely bring them recognition.

Perhaps, inspired by the expression, ‘change is the spice of life’, SPG has decided to not only give a new look to our flagship journal but bring changes in its content as well. This issue of GEOHORIZONS is our humble attempt to take it to the next rung of quality content and superior publishing standards. This may not in any way be taken to belittle the efforts that have been made by various editors in publishing GEOHORIZONS hitherto. You will notice a complete change in the layout of the papers, with each paper having undergone a peer-review, a consistent reference format, amongst the many new features that have been introduced. Please turn the pages and check them out if you haven’t done so already. Going forward, our endeavour will be to continuously upgrade the standard of the papers published in GEOHORIZONS, so that it comes at par, or better than the similar light reading journals such as ‘The Leading Edge’ and ‘First Break’.

Finally, as GEOHORIZONS is the only communication medium between the SPG members and the office bearers, which needs to be active for a vibrant society, I would urge the members to kindly send their comments not only regarding the quality of the papers published in this issue, but other suggestions that they might have, including about what technical talks they would like to see organized by SPG, on what topics should future papers be published, or any other comments they might have. These comments may be emailed at Satinder.Chopra@samigeo.com and the selected ones will be included under ‘Editor’s Mail’ column in future issues of GEOHORIZONS.

I hope you like the new look of the journal, and that this issue makes for stimulating, or thought-provoking reading.

- Satinder Chopra

Editor