QUALITY

Dear Reader,

Almost every week, I receive enquiries from creative inventors wishing to publish an article in MTZ about a new engine concept. Many of them have invested a huge amount of time, energy and money in their invention, which they claim will revolutionise engine technology. However, these exotic creations usually exist only as graphics or colourful presentations or, at best, as a prototype engine made from old engine components that has managed to shown signs of life in the form of the odd detonation. And that is exactly the problem: MTZ has an obligation to you, its readers. Over a period of 73 years, we have earned a worldwide reputation as a technical-scientific journal – a reputation that we strive to maintain. Therefore, when it comes to new engine concepts in particular, we make every effort to ensure that there are not only simulation results available but also findings from test bench tests on real engines. These tests must at least validate power output, fuel consumption and emissions figures, and if necessary be supplemented by further measurements, such as NVH characteristics. Above all, it is about serious evidence of the potential of a new engine concept, and not about technocracy for its own sake. I am convinced that this proven practice is a key component of the high quality of the articles published in MTZ.

What is more, for many years we have had a transparent and fair procedure for selecting the articles for our family of specialist magazines. On the basis of an abstract, we decide in an editorial conference whether a proposed article is suitable for MTZ. In addition to the innovative value and expected technical

depth of the article, other criteria include its relevance to current issues being debated in our industry. These assessment criteria serve as a measure for all article proposals, no matter whether they come from the above-mentioned amateur inventors or from the R&D department of a major company.

Our mission is to provide serious and substantial engineering documentation that is far remote from advertising-based marketing journalism. Would you like to support us in this undertaking? There are bound to be some new developments in your company that are worth being published in MTZ. I would therefore like to invite you to submit proposals for articles in the form of a short abstract. Please send your proposals or let me know your opinion on quality journalism in an e-mail to Richard.Backhaus@springer.com.

With best regards

Richard Backhaus

RICHARD BACKHAUS,
Vice-Editor in Chief
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