
E D I T O R I A L



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Editor

Welcome to the premier issue of the *Journal of Electronic Imaging* (JEI).

As you may have noticed on the cover or masthead, JEI is cosponsored by IS&T and SPIE. Both societies already have their own journals, so why did they choose to start another, jointly sponsored journal? Put simply, the success of their cosponsored Electronic Imaging meetings over the past half decade led IS&T and SPIE to the conclusion that electronic imaging has truly become a field in itself. They saw the need for a refereed journal dedicated to technical problems, issues, and progress in the field. The objective of JEI is to address the full spectrum of the electronic imaging technologies that are normally considered in the design, engineering, and application of an electronic imaging system.

The question may still be "What is electronic imaging?" As you scan the contents, you will see that we have broadly classified the papers by where they fit within an electronic imaging system. For instance, in this issue we start with a paper that covers an electronic imaging system—in this case, a facsimile system. We then turn to system elements related to input or image acquisition, image processing, and output methods and devices. We conclude with a section on electronic imaging-related instrumentation. Within any section, the papers may treat either scientific or engineering issues. Papers may describe new devices or methods or may describe a new application. The test of whether a paper is appropriate is "Will scientists and engineers working in electronic imaging find the topic interesting and useful?" Of course, like any archival journal, the work must be new and not previously published in another archival publication. Publication in proceedings of a meeting does not preclude publication

in JEI, but journal publication usually implies more of a sense of completed work than is often found in conference presentations.

We suspect that the exact topics covered will change with time. Thus, as one of our society officers has said, JEI will to some extent "mirror the topics of the Electronic Imaging meetings" as both the meetings and the journal follow this rapidly developing field. Some electronic imaging methods have simply offered alternatives to optical methods. Some, like fax and TV, have allowed the source and destination to move far apart without time penalty. Others, like CAT scanners and magnetic resonance imaging, use image processing to create images from data where no image could have existed otherwise. We would not venture to guess where electronic imaging will be applied in another decade. Wherever it is, we expect JEI to be there.

The journal will evolve. It is my intent to make it the most useful journal you can find if you work in any area of electronic imaging. Send me your comments, favorable or otherwise. Submit your results for consideration for publication. If you think of yourself as working in electronic imaging, this should be your journal.