

EDITORS' NOTE

As we have briefly pointed out in the last issue (23/1) of the Journal and most of our readers may have realized, the publisher of *Beiträge zur Tabakforschung International/Contributions to Tobacco Research* has changed beginning in 2008. The German Cigarette Manufacturers' Association (Verband der Cigarettenindustrie, VdC) founded *Beiträge* in 1961 and published it until the end of 2007, when the VdC was liquidated.

During this period, the Journal achieved acceptance as a scientific journal in tobacco research and technology not only within the tobacco industry, but also in tobacco and smoking-related areas outside the industry. We believe a major reason for the success of *Beiträge* is that the decisions of all persons responsible for the Journal (Publisher, Editors, Advisory Board, Reviewers) are based solely on scientific standards.

The standards, aims and topics of *Beiträge* will remain essentially unchanged under the new publisher, Institut für Tabakforschung GmbH (Institute for Tobacco Research Ltd.). The Advisory Board will have responsibility for enlarging the topics of the journal, such as toxicological issues. This institute, headed by one of us (WDH), is a private organization and offers scientific services in the area of tobacco issues and documentation. During a transitional period of approximately two years, German cigarette manufacturers have agreed to provide initial financial support to the Journal. It is our aim to attract funding from the tobacco industry – manufacturers, leaf dealers, suppliers – as well as from other enterprises in order to ensure the survival of *Beiträge*.

We plan to retain the present structure (Editorial Office, Editors and Advisory Board) of *Beiträge*, as well as printed issues and website with full text available.

We are confident that with the help of the Advisory Board, *Beiträge* will keep up its high scientific standard in the future.

We encourage potential authors to submit their manuscripts to the Journal.

Finally, we hope that the aim of all our efforts will continue to benefit the readers of *Beiträge* in their business and private enterprises.

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