

# Authors guide for technical papers to be submitted for peer-review

## General information

SME policy generally prohibits publication of a paper in more than one journal. A paper that is submitted for review should not be concurrently reviewed by another publication and, if appropriate, should already be cleared by the company for whom the work was performed. All technical papers are covered by copyright. Permission to reprint a technical paper that has already been printed by SME is usually given on the sole condition that proper acknowledgement be made to the original author and the original publication.

Papers published in *Mining Engineering* (ME) are limited to 6 printed pages **including illustrations** (approx. 6,000 characters and spaces per page of solid text). Papers accepted for the annual Transactions volume only or for the *Minerals and Metallurgical Processing* journal should be as concise as possible. Below is a formatting guide for papers submitted for peer-review on the Internet. Your technical paper should conform to these style guidelines before uploading on to the paper submittal Web site. For ease of peer review, the text should be single column, double-spaced. Please convert your Microsoft Word text to single column, double spaced before uploading.

You are submitting a paper for peer-review only. When accepted for publication, your paper will be formatted by SME using a publishing software. Therefore, you do not need to be concerned about page layout (as is the case when you submit a paper for the annual meeting CD). After an accepted paper is scheduled for publication, galley proofs, in PDF format, are e-mailed to the contact author.

Your paper does not need to be camera ready, but should conform as follows:

## Style format

The paper should contain the following components:

- *Title*: The title should be appropriate, informative and concise. Avoid using more than 15 words in the title, less than ten is best. Also, titles should not begin with A, An or The.
- *Authors*: Show names of all authors below the title. The format is the author's initials followed by the last name. Please provide the names, titles (e.g., professor, graduate student, research engineer, manager) and affiliations (e.g., department, university, company, government agency) and locations (city, state and country) for all authors.
- *Abstract*: An abstract must be included with all papers. The abstract should be 100 to 300 words long and should briefly describe the objective, content and results.
- *Body of paper*: Typical components include headings such as Introduction, Procedures and Results. The actual components used should be appropriate to the material presented. The objective of the paper should be clearly stated and adequately supported.
- *Conclusions*: The conclusions section should summarize the results and may also include recommendations for future work.
- *Acknowledgments (optional)*: Any acknowledgments should appear before the references.
- *References*: The formats for the references vary slightly depending on the type. See below for formats.
- *Appendices (optional)*: Additional supporting information if appropriate. (These should be labeled Appendix A, B, etc.)

## Units

Units used throughout the paper should be consistent. The following forms are acceptable:

- All SI units (according to IEEE/ASTM SI standards). [LINK TO ASTM](#) (here)
- SI units with English units in parentheses

Please be sure to clearly define units, e.g., metric tons (t), short tons (st) or long tons (lt).

## Tables

Tables should be numbered consecutively using Arabic numerals (not Roman numerals), e.g., Table 1 and Table 2. Table titles should be brief and to the point.

## Illustrations

Illustrations include graphs, drawings and photographs. All are designated as figures in the text and are identified as Fig. 1, 2, 3, etc., or as Figs. 4 and 5, etc. The figures are numbered consecutively in the order that they are mentioned in the text. Do not use terms such as Plate 1 or Graph 3. Figure captions should be brief and to the point.

Illustrations should be in electronic format and contained within the Word document or submitted as separate files (JPEG, TIFF etc.). It is recommended that electronic illustrations be at least 300 dpi. Illustrations must be high quality. Text within the illustration must be of appropriate size and must be readable. Lines in line drawings should be of an adequate and even thickness (e.g., 1 pt) and curves should be smooth. Patterns such as cross hatching in illustrations, e.g., in bar charts, should be avoided.

## Mathematical equations

Symbols, subscripts and superscripts should be clearly identified. Symbols representing physical quantities should be in italics, e.g.,  $Wp - R_1 + r^2 = 1$ . All equations must be numbered consecutively with a number in parenthesis, e.g., (1), (2) and (3). In the text, equations are referred to as Eq. (1) or, for example, as Eqs. (3) and (4). Spell out the word "Equation" at the beginning of a sentence, e.g., Equation (5).

## References

The following formats are used in the references section of the paper. They vary slightly depending on the type (book, article, internal report, etc.). Note that words in the titles of journal articles and book chapters are lower case, while words in the titles of books, theses, brochures, etc., are capitalized. Also note that magazine, journal and book titles appear in italics.

### Journal articles and book chapters:

Jones, S.M., and Smith, R.J., 1996, "Flotation of coal using new reagents," *Minerals & Metallurgical Processing*, November, Vol. 23, No. 4, pp. 34-40.

Smith, R.J., and Jones, S.M., 1990, "Column flotation of coal," *Proceedings of the 1st Annual Coal Processing Conference*, J.J. Doe, ed., May 11-24, 1990, Lexington, KY, SME.

### Books:

Doe, J., 1995, *Coal Processing*, SME, 340 pp.

Smith, R., 1994, *Principles of Gold Processing*, 2nd Edition, McGraw Hill, 400 pp.

### Reports, brochures, letters, theses, patents, etc.:

Doe, J., 1990, "Mathematical Modeling of Coal Separation," Ph.D. Thesis, Mineral Tech University, Mineral City, CA., 248 pp.

Doe, J., Smith, R., and Jones, H., 1994, "Pilot Plant Flotation Testing Using New Reagents," US Bureau of Mines, Report of Investigations, RI 9499, 12 pp.

Jones, D., 1998, "Coal Flotation Testing of Samples from the North Coal Deposit," Ajax Project Progress Report, Ajax Mining Co., February, 8 pp.

In the text, references should be referred to by the author's last name and date of publication. Examples are as follows:

"Previous work performed by Doe (1997) indicated that..."

"The new method produced excellent results (Doe, 1995; Jones and Smith, 1996; Smith et al., 1998)."

"According to several researchers (Jones, 1997a, 1997b; Smith and Jones, 1998), the procedure..."

References in the reference section should be listed alphabetically. Multiple references are listed in the text chronologically, and, in the case of more than one work by the same author or authors in the same year, they are listed as a and b, e.g., Smith, 1995a and Smith, 1995b.