The standard yardstick by which to measure “impact” is Thomas Reuters’ Impact Factor and article citation rates. The 2015 Journal Citation Reports®, released in June, indicated that Elements’ 2014 impact factor is 4.463, which makes it rank 3rd among mineralogy journals and 7th among geochemistry and geophysics journals. In 2014, our 379 citable articles had 1866 citations, giving an average of 4.9 per article. Elements has had over 8600 citations since its inaugural issue in 2005.

As of August 2015, the most highly cited issues since the time of publication are:

- v3n1 – “Zircon, Tiny but Timely” (754)
- v2n2 – “Arsenic” (451)
- v4n5 – “CO2 Sequestration” (403)
- v1n5 – “Large Igneous Provinces” (356)
- v3n4 – “Frontiers in Textural and Microgeochemical Analysis” (340)

These numbers, along with the continued commitment of the 17 participating societies to produce this magazine, the high-quality products and services advertised in our issues, and the over 15,000 members who continue to receive each issue are just a few indicators that Elements magazine is making a positive impact on our scientific community.

Earth’s bounty of natural resources will continue to be utilized by humans to build our infrastructure and transportation systems, to power our society, and to develop even more useful personal devices than the cell phone. However, we must continue developing and practicing environmentally sounds methods of extracting this bounty.

Gordon Brown, Stanford University

REFERENCES


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