EDITORIAL

The second issue of "Engenharia Ambiental: pesquisa e tecnologia" (Environmental Engineering: research and technology) brings an innovation: its Internet publishing. The editors aim to simplify the propagation of the articles published by the magazine, broaden the distribution range, change the publishing frequency to semestrial within the next years as well as enable figures and tables to be published with no additional costs to the authors.

By doing so, the magazine intends to consolidate its role in the environmental engineering as one of the important means of technical-scientific propagation, contributing to the Brazilian environmental development.

The present edition includes studies conducted in the cities of Paulínia, São João da Boa Vista and Espírito Santo do Pinhal, in the state of São Paulo; Poços de Caldas, in Minas Gerais; Boqueirão in Paraíba as well as in Açores, Portugal, which amplifies its regional, national and international range.

The papers published involved professors, researchers, students and workers of the following institutions: State University of São Paulo (Universidade Estadual Paulista – Unesp – Rio Claro); State University of Campinas (Unicamp); Agricultural Nuclear Energy Center of the University of São Paulo (USP – Piracicaba); University of Açores (Portugal); University of Aveiro (Portugal); United States Geological Survey (USGS); Federal University of Campina Grande (UFCG) and the Regional University Center of Espírito Santo do Pinhal (Unipinhal).

The ten scientific articles presented here refer to issues related to the following subjects: undergraduate environmental courses in Brazil, use of effluent in ferti-irrigation, water and effluents treatment, rain studies, atmosphere dispersion, environmental diagnosis of hydrographic basin, mining and garbage dump, and analysis of methods of underground water sampling.

In this context, the first article refers to the information on undergraduate environmental courses in Brazil, involving the courses of environmental and sanitary engineering, environmental management, ecology, and technologic and sequential courses. This information leads to the thorough understanding of the context of these courses in the country, acting as historical reference.

The three next articles discuss water and effluent treatment and they are: the effect of the use of the partioned anaerobic reactor effluent in the beetroot ferti-irrigation; water treatment in the drainage of fish farming tank through subsurface flow constructed wetland: analysis of the physical and chemical quality; and use of PET bottles and solar energy in the disinfection of water in rural communities.

The two next articles discuss case studies of atmosphere issues, concerning the characterizing of rain water in Paulínia (SP) and the use of natural isotopes as tracers of the dispersion of the Sahara dust, in Açores, Portugal.

After that, three articles are presented; containing environmental diagnosis on the microbasin in Boqueirão (PB), sand and clay mining in São João da Boa Vista (SP) and inactive garbage dump in Espírito Santo do Pinhal (SP).

Finally, there is a study, which was developed as an end-of-course essay of the environmental engineering of Unipinhal and which brings information on the comparison of the following sampling methods of underground water: bailer, high flow electrical bomb and low flow electrical bomb.

Once more the editors thank the participation of the Brazilian and international environmental communities which participated of the organization and publishing of this issue and they invite again all the technical and scientific community to contribute to the definite consolidation of "Engenharia Ambiental: pesquisa e tecnologia" (Environmental Engineering: research and technology).

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