

## Writing an editorial

Editorial articles serve to promote and introduce the content of each issue and are made available for free online. ICE Publishing also posts selected Editorials on social networks (LinkedIn, Twitter etc.) and the ICE website. For this reason, your Editorial piece should be lively and relatively short (1,000 words or fewer), but no more than 600 words for *Civil Engineering*).

When writing an editorial for a themed issue, you should offer your own thoughts and opinions on the topic before introducing the individual papers. In particular, you should start with an explanation of why the editorial panel has decided to choose the topic for a themed issue – in other words, why they think it is important for civil engineers.

When writing an editorial for a non-themed issue, you should identify a topical theme for the piece and express your opinion on it (at least four paragraphs). It is often best to weave the key technical details of the following papers into this wider discussion – rather than simply listing the contents of the edition. However, each paper doesn't need to be mentioned.

Some helpful examples of successful Editorials can be found [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#). Some additional content ideas:

- **Ahead of Print**

If you have space, please mention that the journal publishes its most recent articles Ahead of Print on its Virtual Library homepage. This allows the community quicker access to fresh content.

- **Themed issues**

If the journal has a current call for papers for an upcoming themed edition, include a summary of the planned issue and invite authors to contact the journal office for information.

- **Further reading**

Has the journal previously (in the last one to two years) published an article directly related to one included in the issue you are discussing? Performing a basic ICE Virtual Library search can identify relevant papers. You might wish to highlight one or two to readers, so they can explore the journal's content further.

- **New Panel / Board members**

If your journal Panel is seeking new members, readers with suitable qualifications can be invited to send their CVs to the journal office to apply.

- **Relevant events**

If the journal is being promoted at any upcoming events (e.g., copies in delegate packs etc.) or has recently been featured at an event, you could highlight this to the readership.

- **Add an Image**

If one of the papers contains a particularly striking or attractive photograph, it may be possible to include it in your Editorial to add interest. Please check with your Journals Editor.