

Editorial Committee  
The Journal of The Japan Institute of Metals and Materials  
Materials Transactions

Q & A for Appropriate Authorship

This Q & A has been provided considering the present global situation of the becoming severer standards for the authorship and the increasing retracted papers as well as the diversification of the standards depending on the times, academic field and each journal.

Please read it carefully and submit your paper appropriately to The Journal of The Japan Institute of Metals and Materials (hereafter abbreviated as J. Japan Inst. Met. Mater.) and Materials Transactions (hereafter abbreviated as Mater. Trans).

(Presentation at the Annual Meeting)

Q: An original paper has been prepared based on the presentation at the Annual Meeting. Is it possible to change the authors or the order of the authors from those presented at the Annual Meeting?

A: Usually the presented contents at Annual Meeting are intermediate research results and after the presentation the fully developed research results will be finalized as the to-be-contributed paper. In this case, the contents of the to-be-contributed paper contain different contents from those at the presentation, the addition of authors related to the different contents and the change of the order of authors are possible.

(Correspondence to Reviewing)

Q: In case of the addition or the deletion of part of contents of the contributed paper in corresponding to the reviewing, is it possible to add or delete the authors who contributed to the corrected parts of the paper?

A: In principle, the change of authors is not permitted. In case due to the inevitable reason of the addition or the deletion of authors or the change of the order of authors, please notify the editorial board with the letter of the reason and the agreed signature of all authors of the paper. The change of authors may be approved by the editorial board for the addition and so on of authors who significantly contributed to the added contents of the paper. However, the change of the first author shall not be approved. Depending on the degree of the addition or the deletion of contents, the paper might be subject to the withdrawal and to the re-contribution. After the reviewing, the

change of authors shall not be permitted.

(Author Performed Experiments)

Q: The contents of the paper are on the experimental method. Is it possible to add a technical assistant who invented the idea of the experimental method?

A: Usually the addition of the person who is in charge of experiment only as one of the authors is not preferable and his/her recognition should be specified in the acknowledgement section of the manuscript. However, in case that the paper itself is fully grounded on the experimental method and the idea that invented plays a significant role in the paper, it is accepted to add him/her as the co-author. The situation differs from paper to paper.

(Too Many Authors)

Q: The original paper is based on the large group research results. Is it possible to list 30 authors in the paper?

A: Since the contents of an original paper should be completed in itself and the contents are restricted due to the page limit of the journal, the authorship of the paper will be restricted to those who directly contributed to the paper. Gift authorship, like research fund supplier, applicant and recipient and instrumentation provider as well as mere superior, is not permitted. The person who contributed slightly may be mentioned at the acknowledgement.

(Too Few Authors)

Q: Is it possible to list only one author because the most part of the paper is contributed by oneself?

A: It is possible, for example, in case that the research related computation has been performed by oneself and the to-be-contributed paper has been prepared by oneself. In case, however, that the contents contain the discussion results with other person on the substantial issue of the paper or the paper included the contents using other person's idea, it is necessary to add the person as an author or mention at the acknowledgement depending on the degree of the other person's contribution. Otherwise, you might be misunderstood as conducting plagiarism of other person's idea.

(Change of Authors of the Paper Containing the Same Contents of the Published Paper)

Q: Is it possible to change the authors in the papers either paper for Mater. Trans. from

the originally published paper in J. Japan Inst. Met.Mater. or vice versa?

A: It is not possible for the same contents of the both papers. In case, however, that the contents of the paper are added or changed, the authors contributed related parts might be added with the permission of the editorial board.

If the degree of author's contribution is changed, it might be possible to change the order of the authors depending on the degree of the contribution. In this case, however, neither the change of the first author nor the deletion of the related authors shall be permitted.

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2. This Q & A may be revised without notice for improvement.