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Title: A Switch to Digital: The Transition of the Journal of Weather Modification to Online Publishing

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Abstract: The Journal of Weather Modification (Journal) is the official organ of the Weather Modification Association (WMA). The Journal publishes peer-reviewed scientific papers on weather modification and related subjects. Shorter notes and correspondence, including reports about weather-modification-related activities, are considered for publication at the discretion of the editor.

The Journal published its first issue in 1969 and added a peer-reviewed section in 1979. In 2010, the Journal started its transition to online publishing, which was completed in 2014 with all articles since 1979 available on the Journal's website. General updating of the information on the website and the addition of a Frequently Asked Questions section also helped to complete the transition. Titles, authors, and abstracts of online articles are fully searchable as part of the Open Journal Systems (OJS) software used to manage the website. The OJS software has been recently upgraded to version 2.4.5 and is hosted on the same server that supports the WMA website.

Over 330 scientific articles from 1979 to 2014 are available online which is an average of 9.43 articles per year with a standard deviation of 5.52 articles per year. More than 450 total articles are available online over the same 35-year period which is an average of 12.86 articles per year with a standard deviation of 5.38 articles per year. Since being released in early 2013, abstracts from articles published between 2009 and 2014 have been viewed over 7,500 times. Although there are currently 188 users enrolled in the Journal's website, there has been a decline in both active WMA members and the number of published Journal articles, especially since 1980. Future plans for the website include implementing a Completely Automated Public Turing Test To Tell Computers and Humans Apart (CAPTCHA) system to safeguard against automatic account creation on the Journal's website, implementing a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) numbering system for each article for easy reference tracking and individual article identification, and providing all members with Journal accounts and membership subscriptions.