

Message from IBM's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

IBM SYSTEMS JOURNAL'S TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

During the twenty-five years that IBM has published the *IBM Systems Journal*, expansion of the information industry has been driven by new technologies, which have made computing accessible and useful to more and more people. A dollar now buys more than two hundred times the processing power it did in the early 1960s, and information products are growing increasingly important to virtually every aspect of our lives.

The *Systems Journal* has paralleled this enormous growth by tracking advances in systems organization, exploring the latest in software, and providing insight into IBM products. It has served as a bridge between the theory of computer science and its practical application.

Originally, the *Journal* was intended as a forum where IBM systems engineers could obtain knowledge and information to help them in solving customers' problems. We are proud that in addition it has become one of the industry's most widely circulated professional journals, reaching a diverse audience in business, education, and government.

The *Journal* also reflects IBM's continuing partnership with customers, who make up more than one-third of the total circulation.

The future of our industry will be just as dynamic as its past. We have seen only a small fraction of our industry's tremendous potential to solve human problems and improve the lives of people around the world.

As IBM celebrates the twenty-fifth anniversary of the *IBM Systems Journal*, we look forward to the continued progress of information technology and the continued reflection of that progress in the *Journal*.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John F. Akers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being particularly prominent.

John F. Akers