

Referees

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Referees voluntarily contribute their time and expertise to review a manuscript. They consider its validity, its value to our readers, the quality of the presentation, and how the manuscript might be im-

proved for publication. Reviews are given anonymously to authors so that referees can be candid with the extremely valuable advice they offer about manuscripts. The intent of this procedure is to promote objectivity, but the recognition referees receive for their contribution is thus limited.

Because the role of the referee is an important factor in determining whether a paper meets the criteria of the *Journal*, we periodically express our appreciation publicly to the referees. On behalf of our authors and readers, the editors sincerely thank the referees listed below, who completed reviews from March 1997 through March 2001. We apologize to any referee who may have been inadvertently omitted.

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