

After a year of thorough research and thoughtful consideration into the future direction of *The Journal of the American Leather Chemists Association (JALCA)*, we have made the decision to transition from offering both hard copy and electronic versions to a fully electronic format, beginning with the July 1st, 2025 issue. This change is being made to align our resources more effectively and ensure the long-term sustainability and global accessibility of the journal.

Starting with the July issue, members will receive the journal via email—similar to the notification received today—but the email will now include a direct link to the password-protected, members-only issue. This new format will feature a flip-book style layout that offers a more user-friendly reading experience and can be printed more easily than our previous scroll format. In addition, an "e-library" will soon be available, allowing members to access past issues in an organized and accessible way.

The transition to digital will result in a 75% reduction in costs, enabling us to reallocate those resources toward other important initiatives that support ALCA's mission and growth. Beyond the financial benefit, the electronic format opens up new opportunities, such as interactive journal features, embedded hyperlinks for direct access to references, and broader digital promotion through our LinkedIn page and email outreach—helping us reach more readers and contributors around the world.

As one of the last remaining peer-reviewed journals in the leather industry, it is critical that JALCA continues to evolve with the needs of the scientific community. We are confident that this change will position the journal for greater impact, accessibility, and longevity.

We sincerely appreciate your support and understanding as we make this transition. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Kristina Hall, ALCA's Executive Secretary, at hallks@ucmail.uc.edu. Further details and access instructions will be shared in the coming months.