

Publications Ethics and Malpractice Statement for the Scientific Conference „Stuttgarter Symposium für Produktentwicklung“

The Scientific Conference “Stuttgarter Symposium für Produktentwicklung” is dedicated to presenting research on various areas in the field of the product development, with a special focus on current methods, innovative solutions and technologies.

The Editorial board is responsible for, among other, preventing publication malpractice. Unethical behavior is unacceptable and the Scientific Conference “Stuttgarter Symposium für Produktentwicklung” does not tolerate plagiarism in any form. Authors who submit articles to the Conference Proceedings: Stuttgarter Symposium für Produktentwicklung affirm that manuscript contents are original. Furthermore, authors’ submission also implies that the manuscript has not been published previously in any language, either fully or partly, and is not currently submitted for publication elsewhere.

Editors, authors, and reviewers, within the Scientific Conference “Stuttgarter Symposium für Produktentwicklung” are to be fully committed to good publication practice and accept the responsibility for fulfilling the following duties and responsibilities, as set by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)

(<http://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines>).

I DUTIES OF THE EDITOR

1. **Publication Decisions:** Based on the editorial board's review, the editor can accept or reject the manuscript or can send it for modifications.
2. **Review of Manuscripts:** The review of manuscripts takes place in a two step procedure. In a first step, the editor ensures that the manuscript (abstract) is initially evaluated by the editor, who make use of appropriate means, to examine the originality of the contents of the manuscript (abstract). After the manuscript (abstract) passes this test, it is forwarded to two reviewers for double-blind peer review, and each of whom will make a recommendation to accept or to reject the manuscript (abstract). Authors with accepted manuscripts (abstracts) are allowed to submit an entire manuscript (fullpaper). Again, the editor checks the manuscript (fullpaper) and forwards it to two reviewers (others as before) for double-blind peer review, and each of whom will make a recommendation to publish the manuscript (fullpaper) in its present form or to modify or to reject it.
3. **Fair Review:** The editor ensures that each manuscript received is evaluated on its intellectual content without regard to authors’ sex, gender, race, religion, citizenship, etc.
4. **Confidentiality:** The editor must ensure that information regarding manuscripts submitted by the authors is kept confidential.

5. **Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest:** The editor can not use unpublished materials, disclosed in submitted manuscript for his/her own research, without prior written consent of the author(s).

II DUTIES OF THE AUTHORS

1. **Reporting Standards:** Authors should accurately present their original research, as well as objectively discuss its significance. Manuscripts are to be edited in accordance to the submission guidelines of the proceedings.
2. **Originality:** Authors must ensure that their work is entirely original.
3. **Multiple, Redundant, or Concurrent Publications:** Authors should not concurrently submit the same manuscript for publishing to other journals, or conference proceedings. It is also expected that the author(s) will not publish redundant manuscripts, or manuscripts describing the same research in several publishing venues, after the initial manuscript has been accepted for publication.
4. **Acknowledgement of Sources:** Author(s) should acknowledge all sources of data used in the research and cite publications that have influenced their research.
5. **Authorship of the Paper:** Authorship should be limited only to those who have made a significant contribution to conceiving, designing, executing and/or interpreting the submitted study. All those who have significantly contributed to the study should be listed as co-authors. The corresponding author should also ensure that all the authors and co-authors have seen and approved the final submitted version of the manuscript and their inclusion as co-authors.
6. **Data Access and Retention:** Authors should retain raw data related to their submitted paper, and must provide it for editorial review, upon request of the editor.
7. **Disclosure of Financial Support:** All sources of financial support, if any, should be disclosed.

III DUTIES OF REVIEWERS

1. **Confidentiality:** Manuscript reviewers, the editor and the editorial staff must not disclose any information regarding submitted manuscripts. All submitted manuscripts are to be treated as privileged information.
2. **Acknowledgement of Sources:** Reviewers will bring any similarity or overlap between the considered manuscripts and any other published paper, which is in personal knowledge of reviewer, immediately to the editor's notice.
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5. **Conflict of Interest:** All reviewers should have no conflict of interest with respect to the research, the authors and/or the funding bodies.