

The first number of IJPME: An exciting challenge

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Editorial

This is the first number of the **International Journal of Production Management and Engineering** (IJPME).

Why this new journal?

From the Research Centre on Production Management and Engineering at the Universitat Politècnica de València, it is understood that the numerous results being obtained in the research and transfer projects, including the generation of new knowledge and practical applications in companies and industrial sectors, are not reaching all the potentially interested people. Although there are many journals that deal with enterprise issues, we want to address the resolution or solution proposal of the real problems that companies are facing. We also wish that the **IJPME** becomes an agile channel between researchers and readers.

Problems, cases and proposals will be addressed from an engineering point of view. Industrial engineering, system engineering, process engineering, etc., are visions that the **IJPME** will enhance in the future.

The **IJPME**'s objectives promote the progress and understanding of phenomena related with all aspects of production engineering and management. In particular, the **IJPME** covers proposals of strategic,

tactic or operative challenges in industrial or service organizations, such as individual enterprises, and supply or distribution network approaches. Moreover, cross-disciplinary working areas, such a business process modelling, operation research, performance measurement systems, enterprise engineering or information technology, etc., as decision support systems are welcome.

- Strategy and Design: Physical systems design, supply or distribution network design, business models & modelling, business process, behavioural issues, collaborative networks, risk management, software services and enterprise architectures, KPIs, inventory policies, etc., based on new models, methodologies, techniques, tools, etc.
- Operations and Control: Demand forecasting, production planning & scheduling, order promising, project management, multi-level lot sizing, routing, etc., using exact heuristic or meta-heuristic methods based on fuzzy logic, mathematical models, intelligence software agents, methodologies, algorithms, etc.

The journal is arranged in two sections: the Editorial and Papers section. The Editorial section publishes a visionary short papers (2-3 pages max.) in order to guide future journal contributors by identifying

emerging research trends inside different areas; the Papers section. It publishes theoretical and empirical peer-reviewed articles.

During this initial period in which the journal should shape its personality, for the purpose of becoming a reference in its area, a policy has been made to focus on quality, with two annual numbers, and on the selection of no more than eight papers per number. The publication dates will be the second week of January and the first week of July. All the **IJPME** numbers will offer the widest possible view of the forefront of engineering proposals.

The journal is available in an open environment under Creative Commons licence (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/es/deed.en>) in accordance with current trends and the framework proposed by the European Union. This ensures an agile, widespread dissemination of the works. The OJS (Open Journal Service) platform and the editorial through the PoliPapers portal-facilitated journals achieve these objectives. In order to meet the quality criteria required by databases, the **IJPME** has welcomed the statement of ethics and the good practice PoliPapers portal, based on the Committee on Publications ethics (<http://publicationethics.org/>).

Acknowledgements: We would like to conclude this first editorial by thanking the Universitat Politècnica de València for the facilities provided to us through the OJS platform and the Editorial staff. We also thank the initiative of the Research Centre on Production Management and Engineering, and the people who have devoted their efforts to identify and promote the importance of engineering, whose dissemination task today we join with enthusiasm.

In this first issue, some of the most relevant authors in the field of engineering have been invited. The editorial team is pleased to present the following papers:

- Pablo Aparicio Ruiz, Maria Rodríguez Palero, Luis Onieva Giménez - Survival function of a power transformer and a switch by means of non-parametric estimators.
- Luiz C. R. Carpinetti, Rafael H. P. Lima - Institutions for collaboration in industrial clusters: proposal of a performance and change management model.
- Bernard Grabot, Yue Ming, Raymond Houé - MRP-based negotiation in collaborative supply chains.
- Paul W. P. J. Grefen, Remco M. Dijkman - Hybrid control of supply chains: a structured exploration from a systems perspective.
- Andrew C.L. Lyons - Lessons from empirical studies in product and service variety management.
- Colin Raßfeld, Dominik Rößle, Roland Jochem - Integrated and modular design of an optimized process architecture.