CALL FOR PAPERS

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The phrase "Software Engineering", when coined in 1966, was a prescription at least as much as a description. Is it fair, in 1988, to characterize software construction and maintenance as an engineering discipline? To assess the validity of such a claim, the 1988 International Conference on Software Engineering focuses on one of the essential attributes of an engineering profession: its tools.

In any discipline, and in software especially, there are several kinds of tools. The most obvious tools are tangible: software tools, or second-degree software, used in the production of other software; hardware tools, necessary to improve the efficiency of this production process. But other implementations of a more conceptual nature should also be considered as tools: methodological tools, which guide a systematic process of software construction; and linguistic tools, which define the formalisms in which ideas and their implementations will be expressed. The 10th ICSE will devote itself to an assessment of current advances in these four directions.

In surveying advances in software engineering tools, the Conference will also consider developments that have not traditionally been seen as part of mainstream software engineering but are of considerable relevance to the work of software engineers: examples include microcomputer software, software for super computers and large scientific applications, user interface design, database engineering and others. The Singapore ICSE is special in two respects. First, it signals the transition to a yearly conference, reflecting the sponsoring bodies' appreciation of the maturity of the field as well as the pace of its development. Second, with the 1988 event, the ICSE goes to the Pacific Basin for only the second time in the history of the series, after the 1982 Tokyo conference. As it broadens its geographical scope, the conference also widens its technical scopes to encompass all of the modern tools that shape current and future practices of the software engineering profession.

Submissions: The Conference Program will include both invited and submitted papers. Authors from all countries are encouraged to submit high-quality contributions that address theoretical or practical aspects of software engineering tools. Descriptions of new tools and assessments of existing tools are equally relevant to the theme of the conference; however every contribution should clearly describe the state of the tools considered (proposal, prototype, in trial, widely used), and new proposals should emphasize the difference with previous efforts and evaluate the potential for practical use. Papers with a theoretical bent should explain the relevance of the theories presented to progress in software quality and productivity.

All submissions will be evaluated by the members of the Program Committee on the basis of form as well as content.

Tools Fair: A Software Tools Fair will be held in parallel with the conference to provide conference attendees with information about current software tools. Both experimental and commercial software will be demonstrated. In addition, the conference will include a special, separate track featuring presentation and demonstration of tools selected by the tools fair committee. Those interested in exhibiting in the tools fair, and especially authors interested in presenting a paper describing practice and experience with a particular tool in conjunction with a demonstration, should contact one of the Tools Fair chairmen.

Submitting a Paper: Four copies (in English) should be submitted by September 1, 1987, to:

Dr. Larry Druffel
Attn.: 10th ICSE
Software Engineering Institute
Carnegie-Mellon University
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

or

Dr. Bertrand Meyer
Attn.: 10th ICSE
Societe des Outils du Logiciel
3bis, Cite d’Hauteville
75010 Paris, France

Papers should be no longer than 6000 words, full-page figures being counted as 300 words. Each paper should include a short abstract and a list of keywords indicating subject classification. Notification of acceptance will be sent by December 1, 1987, and camera-ready copy of the final version will be due on February 1, 1988.

Further Information: For further information and/or a copy of the advance program when available, write to 10ICSE, c/o IEEE Computer Society, 1730 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 USA.

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission Deadline: September 1, 1987
Acceptance Notification: December 1, 1987
Final Versions Due: February 1, 1988