ITC Technical Paper Evaluation and Selection Process

A primary goal of ITC is to present the highest quality technical program to its attendees. A key element in attaining this goal is the evaluation and selection process developed by the ITC Program Committee. In this process, the committee must meet two requirements: evaluate paper submissions on merit as determined by thorough, accurate, fair and impartial peer reviews; and then, select those high-quality submissions that fit the needs of the program. All technical papers presented at International Test Conference and published in the *ITC Proceedings* undergo this process.

Instructions for submitting proposals, including requirements and deadlines, are published in the *Call for Papers* each year. Aware that many prospective authors can’t commit the time required to prepare a complete paper before knowing it will be accepted, ITC accepts paper proposals as well as complete papers. However, paper proposals must contain sufficient information for a thorough review.

The Program Chair reviews all submissions to determine topic areas and submits them to appropriate Topic Coordinators, who coordinate the reviews. (Lists of Topic Coordinators and reviewers are on pages 4 and 17 respectively in this proceedings.) If a paper or proposal is submitted in a topic for which there is no coordinator, it is assigned to a program committee member for consideration for inclusion in a special session.

The Topic Coordinators review the submissions, match them to the technical expertise and interests of the ITC reviewers and forward them to the selected reviewers. At least five reviewers examine each submission in detail. The number of submissions given each reviewer is limited so that he or she can complete a thorough evaluation in the period allotted. ITC instructs the Topic Coordinators to consider the competitive interests of academics, ATE vendors, and product manufacturers in the distribution of papers and evaluation of reviews.

Selection of papers for ITC is highly competitive. Typically, only about one-third of submissions are selected, so authors should assure that their submissions meet all of ITC’s requirements and are of the highest possible quality. All submissions should include: a short summary describing the idea or technique being presented, a brief introduction orienting the reviewer to the importance and uniqueness of the submission, a thorough description of the idea or technique in an organized manner, a review of costs and limits as well as benefits, and appropriate references to previous work. Since reviewers can only evaluate what is submitted, proposals as well as complete papers should thoroughly describe and justify the concepts proposed. Moreover, while ITC will reject sales pitches and blatant product promotions, we welcome significant advances in testing technology incorporated in new commercial products.

ITC directs reviewers to evaluate submissions according to the following criteria:

**Interest and Relevance**
- Is the subject of current interest to ITC attendees?
- Is the topic suitable for ITC?
- Is the work original?
- Are the ideas worthwhile and novel?

**Technical Content**
- Is the submission technically sound?
- Are results described?
- Are the contents novel?
- Are performance metrics clearly stated?
- Are limitations described?

**Clarity of Presentation**
- Does the introductory section explain motivation and orient the reader?
- Are the concepts clearly presented?
- Is the submission logically organized?
- Are titles and keywords used appropriately?
- Is the submission’s length appropriate to its scope?
- Are conclusions supported by the information given?

On completion of their evaluations, the reviewers complete standard evaluation forms and return them to the Topic Coordinators, who then develop session proposals from the best submissions. Appearing before the entire program committee, the Topic Coordinators summarize the reviews and justify their selections and session proposals. The Program Chair resolves differences, schedules the sessions to minimize topical conflict and finalizes the program. ITC then notifies the authors of both accepted and rejected submissions and sends Author’s Kits to the designated presenter of all accepted submissions. The Author’s Kit gives requirements and deadlines for preparing a file for publication in the *ITC Proceedings* and for preparing a talk and slides.

For many professionals working in test or design, sharing knowledge by presenting a paper at ITC is an important part of a professional career. ITC invites you to join them by submitting your proposal or paper to ITC 1999. The Author’s Kit gives requirements and deadlines for preparing a file for publication in the *ITC Proceedings*, CD-ROM, and for preparing a talk with an accompanying PowerPoint presentation.