

## Paper Submission

Authors are encouraged to submit high-quality, original work that has neither appeared in, nor is under consideration by, other journals.

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## Important Dates

- Submission Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015
- Reviews Completed: March 2015
- Major Revisions Due: June 2015
- Final recommendations: October 2015
- Final Manuscripts Due: November 2015

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Editor-in-Chief:

**Rachel Harrison**  
Oxford Brookes University, UK

# Software Quality Journal

## Call for Papers:

### Special Issue on Software and Service Improvement in the Scope of SMEs

#### Guest Editors:

Dr. Ricardo Colomo-Palacios, Østfold University College, [ricardo.colomo-palacios@hiof.no](mailto:ricardo.colomo-palacios@hiof.no)

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According to the OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) Small Medium Enterprises (SME) and Entrepreneurship Outlook report (2005) "SMEs constitute the dominant form of business organization in all countries world-wide, accounting for over 95 % and up to 99 % of the business population depending on country". However, and in spite of their importance, from studies and surveys conducted vastly in the literature, it is clear that the majority of International Standards do not address the needs of SMEs in the field of software development and IT service management.

Recent efforts, such as the ISO/IEC 29110 Software engineering — Lifecycle profiles for Very Small Entities standard are aimed to approach Software Engineering and Project Management good practices to SMEs. However, it is still unclear the practical and real influence of such initiatives in the software and service improvement scenario.

The mission of European Software Process Improvement (EuroSPI) is to develop an experience and knowledge exchange platform for Europe where systems, software and services process improvement practices can be discussed and exchanged and knowledge can be gathered and shared. From 2010 EuroSPI extended the scope of its conferences from software process improvement to systems, software and service-based process improvement. One of the major action lines of EuroSPI is to organize an annual EuroSPI conference supported by SPI Networks from different EU countries. The EuroSPI conference presents and discusses results from systems, software and SPI projects in industry and research, focusing on the benefits gained and the criteria for success.

The aim of this Special Issue is to bring an overview of success cases as well as methods and standards to enable systems, software and service process improvement in organizations worldwide with a special focus on SMEs. This special issue will gather both papers that appear in EuroSPI 2014 proceedings invited to be extended in the special issue as well as submissions not linked in the conference.

#### Submissions:

Papers must be based on original research, and not under review by any other publication. Extending version of previously published conference or workshop papers may be acceptable (subject to copyright regulations) if they contain at least 30% new material. For extended papers, the differences between the original and revised versions must be clearly stated. Please provide an abstract of 150 to 250 words. The abstract should not contain any undefined abbreviations or unspecified references. Also, please provide 4 to 6 keywords which can be used for indexing purposes. Papers should be submitted to the special issue through Editorial Manager by selecting the article type "S.I. : Software and Service Improvement in SMEs". Manuscripts should be formatted according to the SQJ Instructions for Authors on the journal home page.



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