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Call for Papers and Proposals

Understanding Requirements in the Global Economy

As software development is now part of the global economy, requirements engineering is the key bridge between the customer and supplier. Understanding and translating users' needs into effective solutions has always been vital; however, as development is outsourced, requirements have to reflect cultures and languages and local needs. Furthermore, understanding requirements becomes a collaborative activity across time and space.

The IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference provides the premier international forum for researchers, educators, industrial practitioners and students to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, experiences and concerns in the field of requirements engineering.

Topics of interest include, but are not restricted to: requirements elicitation, analysis, documentation, validation and verification; requirements specification languages, methods, processes and tools; requirements management, traceability, viewpoints, prioritization and negotiation; modelling of requirements (formal and informal), goals and domains; prototyping, simulation and animation; evolution of requirements over time, product families and variability; relating requirements to business goals, products, architecture and testing; social, cultural, global, personal and cognitive factors in requirements engineering; domain-specific problems, experiences and solutions.

Paper Categories

We will invite submissions of high quality papers in four categories:

Technical solution papers present solutions for requirements-related problems which are novel or significantly improve existing solutions. A technical solution paper must include a preliminary validation of the proposed solution.

Scientific evaluation papers evaluate existing problem situations or validate/refute proposed solutions with scientific means, i.e. by empirical studies, experiments, case studies, simulations, formal analyses, mathematical proofs, etc. Scientific reflection on problems and practices in industry also falls into this category.

Industrial practice and experience papers present problems or challenges encountered in practice, discuss insights, innovations in industrial practice, success and failure stories. The focus is on 'what' and on lessons learned, not on an in-depth analysis of 'why'. Otherwise, consider submitting a scientific evaluation paper.

Theory/vision papers propose and illustrate new views and theories underpinning RE, present creative new ideas, rethink current notions, etc. Please note that this is not a forum for research proposals or immature technical solution papers.

More details about the paper categories and corresponding review evaluation criteria submission dates are provided on the conference website.

Papers must describe original work not submitted or presented at other forums. Accepted papers will be published in an IEEE CS Press Conference Proceedings and will be available in the IEEE CS Digital Library.

Submission Information

Submissions will be handled electronically at the RE'07 submission site. Authors without web access must make advance arrangements with the Program Chair at least one week before the deadline. Technical solution and scientific evaluation papers must not exceed 10 pages. Industrial practice and theory/vision papers must not exceed 6 pages. Submissions must be formatted according to the IEEE CS proceedings format (see <http://www.computer.org/portal/site/cscps/index.jsp> for instructions and templates). More detail on submission procedures will be available on the conference website.

Other Contributions

We also invite proposals for **tutorials, workshops, panels, doctoral symposium contributions, posters, videos, and research demonstrations**: see next page..

Important Dates, 2007

Paper abstracts	February 5
Paper submissions (all categories)	February 12
Tutorial, workshop and panel submissions	March 9
Notification of authors	April 27
Doctoral symposium, poster and other submissions	May 11



Industrial Track Papers

While requirements engineering is well recognized as one of the most critical parts of the software development life cycle, it assumes even greater importance in the Indian context today. First, global delivery models rely on being able to efficiently distribute the software life cycle across locations, both to optimize expertise as well as to take advantage of cost differentials. In an offshore project, establishing, communicating, monitoring and maintaining requirements take place across a distance, often using computer supported tools, and crossing language and cultural hurdles. Secondly, the domestic demand for high quality and reliable software is also growing rapidly - with India likely to become one of the largest consumers of IT in the next decade, this will need a corresponding rapid growth in expertise. Taken together, these challenges provide an exciting context for the industrial track of RE'07, a practical opportunity for emerging industrial best practice and academic ideas to find an eager audience.

Papers in all aspects of industrial application of requirements engineering are welcome; however, there is also particular interest in receiving contributions on the following topics:

- Requirements for large-scale procurement contracts
- Requirements across the entire system life cycle (including software maintenance)
- Language and cultural issues in establishing and communicating requirements
- Requirements elicitation and management in the context of globally distributed teams
- Requirements process improvement in the context of globally distributed teams
- Education of practitioners (developers and consumers/users) towards specialization in requirements techniques
- Requirements management in product engineering, especially in the context of offshore R&D centres.

For more details contact: David Bush and Gautam Shroff [industchair-re07@manchester.ac.uk]

Workshops

Workshops offer a unique opportunity to meet and have in-depth discussions about precise topics related to practice, innovation and education in different domains and areas of application of RE. Workshops will take place on two days before the main conference, to promote interaction between the community of RE practitioners, researchers and academics. If you are interested in organizing a workshop we invite you to discuss ideas with / request further information from Camille Salinesi and Naveen Prakash [workshops-re07@manchester.ac.uk].

Posters, Demos and Exhibits

RE07 is extending the traditional poster session to promote more interaction and discussion. We invite proposals that emphasise interaction with conference participants and provide for an engaging experience. **Posters** present late-breaking research or work in progress. We encourage submission of posters that are augmented with a video of an ethnographic study or with examples of the use of rich media in requirements engineering, including requirements visualizations, multimedia requirements documents, scenarios, storyboards and vision/concept materials. Additionally, we seek proposals on how to run well designed experiments or role-play exercises during requirements sessions, or experience in interactively exploring problems and use of emerging techniques and tools, and to share approaches to teaching and training. **Demos** provide the opportunity for research teams and vendors to demonstrate their prototypes or tools. We seek proposals that further give the audience the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with these technologies or interactively demonstrate how to use popular requirements engineering techniques, e.g. participants may try the tools in an experiment-like and role-playing setting. All accepted demos should be supported by an accompanying poster display. For more information contact Olly Gotel & Daniela Damian [poster-demos-re07@manchester.ac.uk].

Tutorials

Proposals are invited for full-day (6-hour) and half-day (3-hour) tutorials. Tutorials should offer participants the opportunity to explore requirements engineering topics in depth; to gain new insights, knowledge, and skills; and to learn from some of the leaders in the field. Proposals for tutorials are invited on any theme that is relevant to the requirements engineering community. However, we are particularly keen to offer tutorials aimed at disseminating the results of research and experience to practitioners. Proposals for tutorials that help people practise requirements engineering across geographical, national, cultural and other boundaries are especially welcome. For more information contact Pete Sawyer [p.sawyer@lancaster.ac.uk].

Doctoral Consortium

The RE'07 Doctoral Symposium is a one-day closed workshop that gives doctoral students the opportunity to present their research and receive feedback in a constructive and international atmosphere. A panel of leading researchers give feedback on presentations and discuss students' research directions. For more information contact: Annie Antón [anton@csc.ncsu.edu].

General Enquiries

For all other Program Enquiries contact Alistair Sutcliffe [progchair-re07@manchester.ac.uk], Local arrangements Mira Walia [miraw@qaiindia.com]