

Preface

The First International Conference on Intelligent Systems in Production Engineering and Maintenance ISPEM 2017 was organized by the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Wrocław University of Science and Technology and the Committee on Production Engineering of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The high prestige of the conference is confirmed by the honorary patronage of the Rector of the Wrocław University of Science and Technology and the Dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. The conference was held in Wrocław (Poland) in September 2017. The ISPEM conference was established as an interdisciplinary forum in the areas of intelligent systems, methods and techniques, and their applications in production systems. The importance of these issues attracted both academic and industrial participants. The exchange of ideas and opinions on research efforts and industry needs related to intelligent systems in industrial applications was very fruitful. The primary concerns of the conference attendees were new solutions for innovative plants, research results, and case studies taking into account advances in production and maintenance from the point of view of Industry 4.0. Manuscripts submitted for ISPEM 2017 were accepted for publication in the Conference Proceedings on the basis of two independent reviews. At least one of the reviewers was affiliated at an institution from a country other than the author's. The reviewers were selected according to their competences and the principle of avoiding conflict of interest—a personal relationship between a reviewer and an author, occupational subordination, direct scientific cooperation over the last two years prior to the review. Each review was provided in a written form and concluded with an explicit recommendation to accept or reject the paper for publication. Minor or major revisions with additional review cycles were also possible—about 40% of the finally accepted manuscripts were subjected to a revision procedure. If a negative review was given, the submission was rejected. This situation happened in the case of 45% of the manuscripts submitted. The names of the referees for individual publications were not revealed. On receiving the required number of reviews and finishing the evaluation phase, the Conference Chairs passed them to authors. Before the final decision, the authors' replies to reviewers' comments were required. The entire evaluation and acceptance process

was carried out electronically with the use of Springer's Online Conference Service. We would like to thank all the authors for inspiring presentations and the representatives of both industry and academia for participating in lively discussions. Special thanks go to the members of the Program Committee for the reliable process of reviewing the papers. We are also grateful to the Organizing Committee for the hard work at the conference preparatory stage and a good organization of all events.

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