IEEE Transactions on Robotics & Automation

Status Report

October 2002, Lausanne, Switzerland
Peter B. Luh, Editor-in-Chief

- Overall Summary
- Special Issues
- Review Statistics
- Conclusions
1. OVERALL SUMMARY

- Submissions Are Up

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Submissions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>268</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>289</td>
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<td>1999</td>
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<tr>
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<td>343</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>352</td>
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</table>

2002: 352 by Sept 30, and expect 460 by year end

Thanks to special issues organized by Technical Committees and short and constructive review process
- **Accepts/decisions: Back to normal**
  
  - 1997 = 28%
  - 1998 = 28%
  - 1999 = 23%
  - 2000 = 34%
  - 2001 = 30%
  - 2002 = 29%
  
  ~ Reasonable

- **Impact factor significantly improved (Number 1 in Robotics for years):**
  
  - 1997  0.792
  - 1998  0.849
  - 1999  0.984
  - 2000  0.986
  - 2001  1.375
• **Page Budget**
  – Will meet the 2002 page budget of 1024 pages and with short but non-zero buffer
  – Will gradually catch up the publication date starting the October issue

• **Page Limit**
  – Changing page limit for regular papers from 8 to 10 pages and for short papers from 4 to 5 pages starting 2003

⇒ Very good time to submit looooong papers and special issue proposals

• **Conference Award Papers**
  – Invited ICRA award winning authors and runners-up to submit their papers. Responses are favorable
  – Will extend to other RAS conferences
2. SPECIAL ISSUES

Published or to be published

- **Object-Oriented Methods for Distributed Control Architectures**
  - 7 regular papers and 2 short papers for a Special Section in the August issue

- **Multi-Robot Systems**
  - T. Arai, E. Pagello, and L. Parker
  - 16 papers for the October issue
In Process

• Analysis and Control of Automated Manufacturing Systems via Timed Petri-Net Models
  – Wrapping up the first round of review. Results not promising

• Medical Robotics
  – Technical Committee on Medical Robotics. R. Taylor, P. Dario, and J. Troccaz
  – 30 Regular papers and 1 short paper submitted, and are under first round of review
New Special Issue

• Workholding and Fixturing
  – Call for papers in the August and October issue (late to come out)
  – Submit papers!

Waiting for Proposal

• Human and Robot Interaction & Communication
  – Technical Committee on Human and Robot Interaction & Communication. Kazuhiro Kosuge

• Other ideas/guest editor candidates?
### 3. REVIEW STATISTICS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>4/00</th>
<th>10/00</th>
<th>5/01</th>
<th>10/01</th>
<th>5/02</th>
<th>10/02</th>
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<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1*</td>
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<td>2</td>
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4. CONCLUSIONS

• Thank the efforts of members of Technical Activities Board. Close collaboration between TAB and PAB is healthy for the Society

• Thank the efforts of members of the Editorial Board for the dedication and hard work

• Continue the service mentality for quality/timeliness
  – A constructive and cultivating review process
  – Continuously reduce the review cycle

• Recruit AEs with industrial background. Suggestions welcome

• This coming year would be a turning points for TR&A
Thank you!