Manuscript Submission Guidelines

Manuscript Format

Authors are required to ensure that their submitted manuscripts are in full compliance with the magazine’s format guidelines as outlined below. Submissions not complying with all format guidelines receives an immediate (administrative) reject and are not forwarded to the review process (IEEE PSPB Operation Manual, 8.2.2.3)

1. Please preview the IEEE ComSoc policies on Plagiarism, Multiple Submissions, and Electronic Posting. The IEEE Communications magazine considers for publication only highly original manuscripts and requires an Overall Similarity Index Percentage (CrossRef Similarity Check by iThenticate) that is less than 20%.

2. Manuscript should be tutorial in nature and should be written in a style comprehensible to the average reader in the Telecommunication/Communication field and to those outside the specialty of the manuscript.

3. Mathematical notations and equations should not be used. Only in limited -justified- cases, few simple equations may be allowed with the approval of the Editor in Chief (EiC). Authors may contact the EiC to get approval in this regard before submitting their manuscript. Such requests will be examined on a case by case basis.

4. Figures and tables should be limited to a combined total of six. Authors may not get around this guideline by inserting multiple sub-figures and/or sub-tables into the manuscripts’ figures/tables and/or by excessively enlarging figures/tables sizes.

5. References should be included only to guide readers to more information on the topic of the manuscript; the reference list need not include every available source. No more than fifteen (15) archival references complete with publication name, year, volume, issue and page numbers are allowed. References must be numbered sequentially, not listed alphabetically. All references to online sources (website URLs, web-posted papers) are required to show an "Accessed on" date. The inclusion of more than 15 references requires permission from the Editor-in-Chief.

6. The IEEE Communications Magazine does not charge authors for paper (article) length. However, the maximum number of pages of any paper is SEVEN (7) magazine pages. Manuscripts MUST always be submitted in two-column format, complete with authors’ bios. The following typesetting recommendations can help authors meet the page limit:
   - Use Times Roman font, 12 pt font size, 10 pt line spacing, and 20 pica column width.
- Manuscript should not exceed 5500 words in total; inclusive of title, authors’ names/info, abstract, body (introduction to conclusion), figures, tables, captions, footnotes, acknowledgements, references, authors’ bios, etc. (everything). Footnotes are strongly discouraged.
- Authors’ bios are not to exceed 150 words each.

Regardless, of typesetting, the authors are responsible for maintaining a maximum of SEVEN (7) pages upon initial submission, revisions, and camera-ready. Manuscripts may be rejected if not complying with this limit at any time. Final, camera-ready, versions will not be published for as long as they exceed this limit.

7. Papers must avoid any statements perceived as advertisements or endorsements of commercial products.

8. Manuscripts may be edited for clarity and grammatical accuracy, and will be copyedited according to the magazine’s style. Please refer to The IEEE Communications Society Publications Department Style Guide when preparing your manuscript.

Manuscript Submission

All manuscripts to be considered for publication in the IEEE Communications Magazine must be submitted through Manuscript Central. Below is a list of the three main publication tracks to which manuscripts may be submitted. After determining which type of manuscript you have, go to Manuscript Central, register or log in, and go to the Author Center. Follow the instructions therein.

The Magazine Series
If you would like to submit a manuscript to one of the magazine series, please examine the Call for Papers (CFP) of the Series you are interested in to verify the relevance of your manuscript to the Series scope. Visit Manuscript Central to submit through the category designated to the Series of your choice. You may select this category from the "Please Select an Article Type" drop-down menu. You may also contact the Series Editors if you have question(s).

Feature Topics
As opposed to our broad-scope Series, authors can submit to one of our Feature Topics (FTs), each focusing on a current hot topic. Please examine the Call for Papers (CFP) of the FT you are interested in to verify the relevance of your manuscript to its scope. Visit Manuscript Central to submit through the category designated to the FT of your choice. You may select this category from the "Please Select an Article Type" drop-down menu. You may also contact the Guest Editors of the FT if you have question(s).

The Magazine Open Call (OC)
Our Open Call (OC) is for free submissions in any subject within the scope of communication engineering and technologies. All in-scope submissions are welcome. If you would like to submit a manuscript to OC, select "Open Call Article" in the "Please Select an Article Type" drop down menu.
In special cases, an invitation may be extended by the Editor in Chief to expert(s) in the magazine’s field to write a paper in an important topic of current interest to our readership. Such Invited Papers are subject to special consideration and may be subject to special format/length exceptions.

**Submission of Manuscript Revisions**

The review process of a new manuscript (Revision 0, or R0) may result in acceptance, rejection, or a request for revision (major or minor revision). If a revision is requested, the authors would revise and improve the manuscript based on the remarks on R0, thereby producing an R1. Further revisions: R2, R3, etc may deem necessary based on progress in the review process. Upon every revision, the same format and submission guidelines must be respected. Every revision of the manuscript is expected to make considerable progress towards publication. However, a revision decision is no guarantee for ultimate acceptance. Furthermore, if the manuscript fails to demonstrate considerable and steady progression towards publication, it may be rejected upon any revision. **Authors are required to submit revisions within certain period of time after which the manuscript can no longer be considered for publication and is withdrawn from the system**

- Unless a shorter duration is required due to special editorial reason, an R1 must be submitted no later than forty five (45) days after R0 receives a revision decision.
- Unless shorter duration is required due to special editorial reason, an R2 must be submitted no later than twenty one (21) days after R1 receives a revision decision.
- Unless shorter duration is required due to special editorial reason, further revisions (R3 and beyond) must be submitted no later than Ninety six (96) hours after the most recent revision decision.

For Feature Topics, and due to the limited time period available for their review process, shorter durations are always required and manuscripts undergoing major or multiple revisions may not be published as part of the FT. They are published under the open call.

It is recommended that authors of a manuscript where revision was requested return a list of point-by-point responses to reviewers’ remarks. These responses must be included in a file separate from the revised manuscript. A standalone revised manuscript is always necessary to check format compliances.

**ORCID**

All IEEE publications require an Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) for all authors. ORCID is a persistent unique identifier for researchers and functions similarly to a paper’s Digital Object Identifier (DOI). ORCIDs enable accurate attribution and improved discoverability of an author’s published work. To create an ORCID, please visit https://orcid.org/register. The author will need a registered ORCID in order to submit a manuscript or review a proof with the IEEE Communications Magazine.

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4. A new page will open to create and/or validate your ORCID. Once the validation is complete, the new page will close and you will return to ScholarOne.
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Authors who do not have an ORCID in their ScholarOne user account will be prompted to provide one during submission. For more information on ORCID please visit the IEEE Support Center.

**Guidelines for Accepted Manuscripts**

See the Manuscript Publishing Guidelines for accepted manuscripts.

**Appeal of Editorial Decisions**

ComSoc is committed to providing fair and impartial treatment of each paper submitted to its magazines. Unless there is a clear content-related problem with the paper, it will receive at least three reviews that are used by the responsible editor for making a recommendation to the EiC. The EiC (or an AEiC delegated by him) then makes the decision based on the combination of the reviews, the editor(s) recommendation, and any other factors that deems relevant. In the event that the author(s) find a compelling reason to disagree with the decision, the IEEE Policies and Procedures specify the rights of authors to appeal an editorial decision. This policy is specified in the IEEE Publications Services and Products Board (PSPB) Operation Manual.

Note that there are situations where papers may receive positive reviews and yet still be legitimately rejected. For example, if there are past paper(s) covering essentially the same content, or current papers the editors needs to choose from. Note also that certain publication tracks (FTs for example) may have a space for only a limited number of papers.

**Submission of Press Releases and/or Product Information**

Please mail or e-mail (do not fax) press releases for new product information to:

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