

A Difficult Issues

resubmission of already rejected elsewhere papers

One may notice that most journals are rejecting over 70% of manuscripts. The acceptance rate in TII is only 20% about 20%. In 2010 TII received 359 manuscripts, 73 papers were printed and nothing were left in the backlog for 2011. Unfortunately, rejected manuscripts are often being resubmitted to other journals and as consequence a pile of these recirculating manuscripts is growing. This procedure creates a headache for all journals. These are typical indicators of these previously rejected papers:

- The manuscript is not formatted to the specific requirements of TII
- The subject is on the borderline of the TII scope and not well linked to the current interest of members of IEEE Industrial Electronics Society.
- Authors are not aware of 8 pages limit (<http://tii.ieee-ies.org/o/TIICover4.pdf>)
- References are at least one year old.
- In TII we are expecting that the presented results are being placed and compared to results published in other journal papers instead of placing them in a company of web pages, manuals, or textbooks.
- Authors do not attend conferences organized by the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society
- Authors do not link their finding to other IES publications such as *IEEE Trans. on Industrial Electronics (TIE)*, *IEEE Trans. on Industrial Informatics (TII)*, *IEEE Industrial Electronics Magazine (IEM)*, or conferences organized by the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society
- TEX software is very rarely used in IES journals and conferences. This editing tool is commonly used in some journals but not in TIE, IEM, or TII.
- IES journals are directed to industrial engineers. Papers to be widely read should be well written in plain English and they have to be well structured. Writing papers in the style of Theorems, Lemma, Proofs etc are well suited to some theoretical journals but not to journals addressed to industrial practitioners.
- Authors are not members of the Industrial Electronics Society
- Manuscripts with citations to web pages and many conference papers do not belong to TII. In TII we are expecting to have majority references to journal papers.

Nobody can claim for sure that the specific manuscript was already rejected elsewhere, but at least the above symptoms can be an indication that the manuscript is not within the main scope of the interest of the Industrial Electronics Society. In such case the Editorial Board of TII has significant difficulties of organizing the review process:

- (1) They may not be enough expertise in TII for evaluating manuscripts outside of our traditional scope and authors may not receive the best feedback.
- (2) Most of our reviewers are authors of previously published papers in TII (or TIE) and they may not be willing to devote a time to review manuscript outside of their research interest.
- (3) Theoretically we may search for reviewers from outside our traditional base of the Industrial Electronics Society, but in most cases these reviewers are refusing to perform a review if they are not familiar with the journal. As consequence for some manuscripts 12 - 15 reviewers are sometimes being asked and still we cannot get the required 2-3 in-depth reviews.
- (4) The review process of out of the scope papers takes usually much longer and authors are much better off if they submit a manuscript to the journal with a better suited profile.
- (5) Citing not relevant TII papers, to make an impression that the manuscript is within the scope of TII, is wrong and it may result with immediate rejection of the manuscript.

By sending manuscript to incorrect journal authors you will not receive very valuable comments from the review, but also chances of recognition of your work are very small.