Documents are one of the centerpieces of globally interconnected systems that store information drawn from many media and deliver that information as active documents that adapt to the needs of their users. A document may be stored in final presentation form or it may be generated on-the-fly, undergoing substantial transformations in the process. Documents, that may include extensive hyperlinks, also make available structured collections of information on which to anchor automated reasoning, such as promoted through the Semantic Web. Furthermore, document technologies like XML are having a profound impact on data modeling in general because of the way they bridge and integrate a variety of paradigms (database, knowledge representation, and structured document).

The Symposium on Document Engineering is an academic conference devoted to the dissemination of research on models, tools and processes that improve our ability to create, manage and maintain documents. DocEng 2004, the fourth annual meeting, seeks high-quality, original papers and panels that address the theory, design, development, and evaluation of computer systems that support the creation, analysis, distribution and, interaction with documents in any medium.

Conceptual topics and technologies relevant to the symposium include (but are not limited to):

- Document standards, models, representation languages
- Document authoring tools and systems
- Document presentation (typography, formatting, layout)
- Document synchronization and temporal aspects
- Document structure and content analysis
- Document categorization and classification
- Document internationalization
- Integrating documents with other digital artifacts
- Document engineering life cycle and processes
- Document engineering in the large
- Document storage, indexing, and retrieval
- Automatically generated documents
- Adaptive documents
- Performance of document systems

Markup languages (SGML, XML)
Style sheet systems and languages (CSS, XSL, DSSSL)
Structured multimedia (MPEG-4, SMIL, MHEG, HyTime)
Metadata (MPEG-7, RDF)
Document database systems and Query Languages
Optical character recognition
Type representations (Adobe Type 1, TrueType)
Page description languages (PostScript, PDF)
Electronic books (E-book) and digital paper
Applications of constraint systems for document engineering
Document transformation (XSLT, XQuery)
Document services on wireless networks (WAP)
Document linking standards (XLink, XPath, XPointer)
Document APIs (SAX, DOM)

Important dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abstracts due:</th>
<th>April 26, 2004</th>
<th>Panel Proposals</th>
<th>April 26, 2004</th>
<th>Short Papers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Papers due:</td>
<td>May 10, 2004</td>
<td>May 10, 2004</td>
<td>July 16, 2004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptance notice by:</td>
<td>July 1, 2004</td>
<td>July 1, 2004</td>
<td>August 13, 2004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revised versions due:</td>
<td>August 20, 2004</td>
<td>August 20, 2004</td>
<td>August 20, 2004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Submission information

Authors are invited to submit original, unpublished research papers that are not being considered in another forum. Authors may submit full papers (up to 10 pages length) or short papers (up to 3 pages in length). Full papers should describe complete works of original research. Short papers provide an opportunity to report on research in progress, to present novel positions on document engineering, or to demonstrate exciting new systems. Full paper presentations will be 30 minutes in length, while short papers will be presented in 15 minutes.

Panel organizers are invited to submit panel proposals. A panel should bring together a variety of expert voices on a topic of considerable interest. The topic may be interesting because it is controversial, because it is of great importance to society or to the field, or because it leads us to think about future directions for document engineering. A panel proposal may be up to three pages in length. It should describe the topic of the panel and why it will be interesting to the symposium’s participants. It should also list the panelists, briefly describing their expertise and should note whether any panelist’s participation is tentative. (Note: panelists are expected to register for the symposium.)

Detailed submission information will be found on the Document Engineering Web site (www.documentengineering.org)

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