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**A Review of the Last Ten Years of Research Presented at the Annual  
International Concurrent Enterprising (ICE) Conference**

**Authors:**

**Fiona Lettice\* and Pete Thomond, Cranfield University, UK**

**Kul Pawar and Johann Riedel, Nottingham University, UK**

**Kathryn Cormican, NUI, Galway, Eire**

**Nel Wognum, University of Twente, The Netherlands**

**Frithjof Weber, BIBA, Germany**

**\* Corresponding Author: International Ecotechnology Research Centre,  
Cranfield University, Cranfield, Beds, MK43 0AL, UK, Tel: +44 1234 754966,  
Email: [f.lettice@cranfield.ac.uk](mailto:f.lettice@cranfield.ac.uk)**

## **A Review of the Last Ten Years of Research Presented at the Annual International Concurrent Enterprising (ICE) Conference**

The 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Concurrent Enterprising (ICE) provides an excellent opportunity to reflect on the history of the conference and how it has developed and evolved over the last 10 years. The purpose of this paper is to present a detailed analysis of the papers that have been presented within this ICE community since it was established in 1994 and to look forward to what the future research directions could be.

### **Approach**

The research will be carried out by 7 researchers from 5 organisations across 4 countries. All have been actively involved within the ICE community and have a good insight into the purpose and topics of the conference.

Each of the last ten proceedings will be systematically analysed, using a structured questionnaire to ensure consistency. In addition, a qualitative assessment report will be prepared for each individual proceedings. The results will be statistically analysed and the authoring team will use this to discuss the findings and build a common interpretation of the findings. This past, present and future view will be documented in the full paper and presented at the conference. The full paper will answer the following major questions:

- **How has the composition of the active members of the ICE community changed over time?** This will be analysed by considering the country of origin of the first author of each of the papers to understand the geographic distribution of those presenting papers and whether they are from academia or industry. We will also analyse how many organisations the authors of an individual paper come from in order to understand the degree to which the research efforts have an inter-organisational dimension ("virtualness").
- **What type of articles have dominated over the 10 years?** This will be analysed by categorising each of the papers into whether they are predominantly theoretical, empirical or tool design and development type papers.
- **Which topics have been popular over the last 10 years and what have the trends in topics been?** Each of the papers will be categorised according to the topic area that they have been published under, for example life cycle engineering, knowledge management, interoperability and so on.
- **What have the goals of the research or studies presented in the papers been?** Each of the papers will be categorised according to the goals of the research, which may include time to market reduction, improved product or service quality, improved productivity or reduced cost. We will also investigate whether the research reported belongs to a specific research project and if so, whether this project is funded by national, European or other research programme.

Other questions that the analysis will address include: What have the trends been in terms of papers that focus on single enterprise studies versus multiple enterprise

studies? What have the trends been in terms of papers focusing on products versus solutions?

It will also be possible to analyse the papers by considering whether authors from academia or industry favour particular types or topics of papers and whether there is an observable trend in the types or topics of papers originating from certain countries.

It is intended that this paper will present the data graphically and critically analyse the data to provide answers to the questions about how the ICE community has developed and evolved over time. This reflection on past contributions within the ICE community will be used to help to refine, and expand the CE2010 vision already created by the community. The results from this paper will be compared and contrasted with other similar studies (for example [1]) as well as general literature on CE.

Our investigation is in progress and therefore we cannot present results in this abstract. However, the authoring team have been involved in similar studies in the past and are confident that this will be accomplished in time for the full paper submission deadline.

## **References:**

[1] Wognum P M, Jardim-Goncalves R, de Graaf R, Lettice F and Roy R. 2003. Analysis on 10 Years of the CEconf/IPSE Community, Proceedings of 10<sup>th</sup> ISPE International Conference on Concurrent Engineering: Research and Applications: Advances in Concurrent Engineering, Madeira, 28-31 July