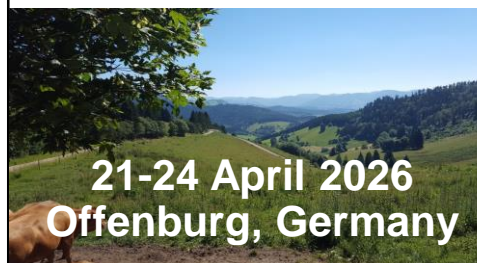


22nd IEEE International Conference on Factory Communication Systems



21-24 April 2026
Offenburg, Germany



IEEE WFCS 2026

CALL FOR SPECIAL SESSIONS

WFCS 2026 will include Special Sessions (SSs) to enhance the technical program and focus on new trends, special topics, and breakthroughs. A SS can cover subjects belonging to the topics of interest of the Conference, or novel topics consistent with those identified as the topics of interest. A SS can also be proposed by large, specific research and innovation projects or clusters of projects.

ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL SESSIONS

If you are interested in organizing a SS, please follow the “Rules for organization of Special Sessions” (see below) and contact Special Sessions Chairs, Ahlem Mifdaoui (ahlem.mifdaoui@isae-superaero.fr), Dirk Pesch (dirk.pesch@ucc.ie), and Gianluca Cena (gianluca.cena@cnr.it). Please note that the deadline for SS proposals is November 17, 2025.

RULES FOR ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL SESSIONS

SSs are aimed at bringing together Researchers from different Institutions and Countries. For this reason, it is recommended not to submit proposals with organizers from a single Institution or from a single Country. Please consider the following rules when proposing a SS:

- The SS has to be on a subject that does not fall directly within the WFCS topics of the regular track (i.e., those listed in the CFP), even though it must deal with the general subject of WFCS. Better, it may fall within the typical WFCS topics, but it needs to be highly specific (vertical). For instance, “*Communication networks for precision agriculture*” could be considered.
- An Individual can be (Co-)Organizer of up to two SSs (but preferably just one).
- The SS Call for Papers should be prepared using the template [WFCS2026-SS-template.docx](#).
- The SS Organizers must propose 12 possible Reviewers (no more than 6 from the TPC) who should not have conflict of interest with the SS Organizers in coherence with the content of the proposed SS. Each Reviewer **must have explicitly accepted the invitation by the SS Organizers**, and he/she **will be contacted by the SS Co-Chairs**. Some SS Reviewers could be added to the TPC.
- The list of Reviewers cannot include the SS Organizers and, if possible, Reviewers should be from Institutions other than theirs.
- The evaluation phase of a SS proposal starts immediately after its submission, and publication on the conference website happens as soon as the SS is approved by the SS Co-Chairs.
- Once a SS is approved, it is the duty of the SS Organizers to publicize the SS to attract enough quality papers from Researchers, Practitioners, and Industries in the field.
- The Conference will be fully on-site. Different conference formats will be adopted only if deemed strictly necessary.
- The format and length of the papers submitted to a SS must follow the same rules as regular papers.
- The SS must include Institutions from at least 2 different Countries.
- At least 3 of the Institutions that submit to the SS must be different from the Institution(s) of the SS Organizers.
- An Individual cannot be (Co-)Author of more than two papers submitted to the same SS.
- Papers from SS Organizers cannot exceed 60% of the contents of the SS.
- To be effective, the SS must include at least 4 accepted papers.
- If a SS has too few accepted papers, they will be allocated to regular sessions wherever possible.
- Papers submitted to a SS will undergo the same review process as regular papers. The SS Organizers are not involved in the management of the review process, which will be jointly managed by Program Co-Chairs and SS Co-Chairs. They will select Reviewers from the WFCS 2026 TPC, also considering the list of Reviewers proposed by the SS Organizers.
- Reviewers or SS Co-Chairs may recommend a SS paper to be submitted as a WiP paper. In that case, Chairs could propose Authors to re-submit it as a WiP.
- Before the review process begins, SS Organizers must explicitly declare papers that present a conflict of interest for them. A conflict of interest arises where the judgement about the quality of a paper is, or can potentially be, influenced by one or more of the SS Organizers being (Co-)Authors, or knowing or having relationship with some of the Authors. To ensure independent reviews, any potential conflict must be immediately notified to the SS Co-Chairs.

Website: <https://hs-offenburg.de/wfcs26>



IMPORTANT DATES

SS proposals:

Deadline: **November 17, 2025**
Notifications: **November 21, 2025**

Regular/SS submissions:

Deadline: **January 11, 2026**
Notifications: **February 22, 2026**
Final versions: **March 1, 2026**

WiP/Demo submissions:

Deadline: **February 27, 2026**
Notifications: **March 15, 2026**
Final versions: **March 20, 2026**