22nd IEEE International Conference on Factory Communication Systems

21-24 April 2026
Offenburg, Germany

IEEE WFCS 2026

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DESCRIPTION

Research on factory communications has gained increasing relevance in recent years, with communication playing a fundamental role in automation systems. Advanced communication/ networking technologies and paradigms such as 5G/6G, WiFi7/WiFi8, Ethernet TSN, OPC UA, network softwarization, IIoT, have opened up a multitude of application possibilities in the industrial scenario. However, the availability of a variety of communication solutions, often employed in combination to meet the needs of different applications, have led to highly complex and heterogeneous factory communication systems. This complexity gives rise to new challenges that must be addressed to fully exploit the potential of these advancements towards a new generation of smart, autonomous, flexible and efficient automation systems.

The 22nd edition of the WFCS conference aims to focus on all forms of communication solutions to support automation within factories and other contexts, with special consideration given to recent developments, new trends and research insights and future perspectives. As the only IEEE conference exclusively dedicated to communication for automation, WFCS is the elected forum for researchers, developers, and practitioners to review and discuss the latest advances in the field.

The conference, supported by the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society (IEEE-IES) and led by the IEEE-IES Technical Committee on Factory Automation (IEEE-IES TCFA), will be hosted by the Offenburg University (Germany) and organized in collaboration with Institute of Electronics, Computer and Telecommunication Engineering CNR-IEIIT (Italy).

FOCUS

The conference primarily focuses on (but is not limited to) the following areas:

- Wired and Wireless Industrial Communication Systems and Technologies
- Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT)
- Cloud/Fog/Edge Computing Architectures and Applications in Industrial Automation
- Machine Learning and Data Analytics for Industrial Communication Systems
- Security and Safety of Industrial Communication Systems
- Fault tolerance for reliability and availability of Industrial Communication Systems
- Communication Protocols, Standards, and emerging technologies for Real-Time and Networked Embedded Systems (5G/B5G/6G, WiFi7/WiFi8, TSN, IEC 61850, IEC 62439, etc.)
- Communication in Cyber-Physical Systems and Distributed Control Systems
- Communication Challenges in Collaborative Robotics and Automation
- Traffic Scheduling and Application-Network Integration
- Case Studies, Industry Practices and Lesson Learned in Factory Communication
- Recent Advances in Communications in Research Domains with Similar Requirements/ Characteristics (Smart Cities, Smart Grid, Smart Transportation, Smart Health, Ambient Assisted Living, Smart Building/ Smart Home, Smart Agriculture, etc.)
- Management aspects related to heterogeneous industrial Networks

PAPER SUBMISSION

Regular/Special Session Papers: up to 8 double-column pages, following the IEEE conferences template.
Work-in-Progress (WiP) Papers: up to 4 double-column pages, following the IEEE conferences template.
Demonstration (Demo) Papers: 2 or 3 double-column pages, following the IEEE conferences template accompanied by a separate document describing the demo setup details and requirements.
Accepted Regular, Special Session, WiP, and Demo papers will be published in IEEE Xplore.

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

WFCS 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

SS proposals:	Regular/SS submissions:	WiP/Demo submissions:
Deadline: **November 17**, 2025	Deadline: **January 11**, 2026	Deadline: **February 27**, 2026
Notifications: **November 21**, 2025	Notifications: **February 22**, 2026	Notifications: **March 15**, 2026
	Final versions: **March 1**, 2026	Final versions: **March 20**, 2026

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