



Advanced Digital Technologies for the Integration of Production and Maintenance

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Message from the Guest Editors

Production scheduling and maintenance management are responsibilities of different functions often corresponding to different departments of a manufacturing. The relationship of two functions is conflicting, since maintenance tasks take time that could be differently used for production, while delaying these activities may increase the probability of machines failures.

Enhanced results are in fact expected, by means of a joint planning and control approach, both in terms of cost savings and improved technical performances. In this scenario, the widespread use of digital technologies driving Industry 4.0 paradigm, as IoT-enabled tools, can help improve collaboration between the two activities and decision-making processes in pursuit of common organizational goals. The special session considers contributions providing models, new methodologies, techniques, and frameworks for the integration and the optimization of production and maintenance operations. The special issue focuses on contributions that leverage on new technologies in the scope of Industry 4.0 and that can foster sustainable goals.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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