
Foreword

Benoît Eynard

Department of Mechanical Engineering,
Université de Technologie de Compiègne,
Rue du Dr Schweitzer – CS 60319,
60203 Compiègne Cedex, France
Email: benoit.eynard@utc.fr

It is my great pleasure and honour to act now as an Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of Product Lifecycle Management*. First, I would like to warmly thank Emeritus Professor Alain Bernard from Centrale Nantes, France, for his large and active contribution to the growth of *IJPLM* during the past ten years. I would like also to greatly thank Professor Abdelaziz Bouras from Qatar University for founding the journal about 20 years ago. Last, I would like to thank the editorial members and all my colleagues from IFIP WG 5.1 for their trust and support in naming me and helping me out with the editorial management of *IJPLM*.

IJPLM has been for 20 years the unique journal dealing with digital technology, lifecycle engineering and management, business process and organisation. The current development of topics such as industrial applications of artificial intelligence, internet of things, cyber-physical systems, and digital twin, enterprise transformation looking forward to new and urgent challenges such as circular economy and sustainability are key issues commonly discussed in the papers published in *IJPLM*.

Last, as Editor-in-Chief, I would like to invite authors to join the journal by pursuing the publication of their best papers within *IJPLM*.

The Issue 1 of Volume 15 provides an interesting and relevant example of such kind of broad topical overview in the above-mentioned topics. The paper from Mascarenhas et al. deals with clarification of user needs in reverse logistics of medical devices in the novel approach of product-service-system. The work from Petronijevic et al. focuses on the risk assessment and management in product development. The contribution of Amelete et al. offers an innovative approach of maintenance based on smart asset management for the electrical distribution sector. Last, the paper from Saad and Youness proposes an original application of product lifecycle management in the cottage sector and specifically in mosaic manufacturing.

I hope readers of *IJPLM* will benefit from information found in this issue for their future research work in a large number of academic fields or for their industrial and business applications in all sectors. Last word goes to the editorial office of Inderscience Publishers to thank them for their strong and efficient support in the managing submissions, producing the final form of papers and delivering online the accepted papers of the journal.

Enjoy your reading with *IJPLM* and all the best for your research work or business activities!