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In addition to regular papers, JSS features two special tracks (In Practice, New Ideas and Trends Papers), as well as special issues."

In Practice is exclusively focused on work that increases knowledge transfer from industry to research. It accepts: (1) experience reports, showing what actually happens in practice (contrasted to theory), illustrating the challenges (and pain) that practitioners face, detailing how research results fair in realistic settings, and presenting lessons learned; (2) problem descriptions with significant details on the context, underlying causes and explicit symptoms of the problem, the technical and organizational impact of the problem, as well as relevant research questions for researchers to investigate, and finally (3) tool-focused papers discussing the usability, scalability, engineering, and other challenges faced when implementing a research concept. Submissions to this track should include at least one co-author from industry and be within scope of the journal's above topics of interest. In addition, submissions will be evaluated through industry-appropriate criteria for their merit in reporting useful industrial experience; not in terms of academic novelty of research results.

New Ideas and Trends Papers

New ideas, especially those related to new research trends, emerge quickly. To accommodate timely dissemination thereof, JSS introduces the New Ideas and Trends Paper (NITP). NITPs should focus on the systems/software engineering aspects of new emerging areas, including: the internet of things,
big data, cloud computing, software ecosystems, cyber-physical systems, green/sustainable systems, continuous software engineering, crowdsourcing, and the like. We distinguish two types of NITPs: A short paper that discusses a single contribution to a specific new trend or a new idea. A long paper that provides a survey of a specific trend, as well as a (possibly speculative) outline of a solution. We anticipate revisiting specific new trends periodically, for instance through reflection or progress reports. New Ideas and Trend Papers warrant speedy publication.

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