Documents are one of the centerpieces of globally interconnected systems that store information drawn from many media and deliver that information as active documents that adapt to the needs of their users. A document may be stored in final presentation form or it may be generated on-the-fly, undergoing substantial transformations in the process. Documents, that may include extensive hyperlinks, also make available structured collections of information on which to anchor automated reasoning, such as promoted through the Semantic Web. Furthermore, document technologies like XML are having a profound impact on data modeling in general because of the way they bridge and integrate a variety of paradigms (database, knowledge representation, and structured document).

The Symposium on Document Engineering is an academic conference devoted to the dissemination of research on models, tools and processes that improve our ability to create, manage and maintain documents. DocEng 2003, the third annual meeting, seeks high-quality, original papers and panels that address the theory, design, development, and evaluation of computer systems that support the creation, analysis, distribution and, interaction with documents in any medium.

Conceptual topics and technologies relevant to the symposium include (but are not limited to):

- Document standards, models, representation languages
- Markup languages (SGML, XML)
- Document authoring tools and systems
- Style sheet systems and languages (CSS, XSL, DSSSL)
- Document presentation (typography, formatting, layout)
- Structured multimedia (MPEG-4, SMIL, MHEG, HyTime)
- Document synchronization and temporal aspects
- Metadata (MPEG-7, RDF)
- Document structure and content analysis
- Document database systems and XQL
- Document categorization and classification
- Optical character recognition
- Document internationalization
- Type representations (Adobe Type 1, TrueType)
- Integrating documents with other digital artifacts
- Page description languages (PostScript, PDF)
- Document engineering life cycle and processes
- Electronic books (E-book) and digital paper
- Document workflow and cooperation
- Applications of constraint systems for document engineering
- Document engineering in the large
- Document transformation (XSLT)
- Document storage, indexing, and retrieval
- Document services on wireless networks (WAP)
- Automatically generated documents
- Document linking standards (XLink, XPath, XPointer)
- Adaptive documents
- Document APIs (SAX, DOM)
- Performance of document systems

Important dates

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Organizing committee

- Cécile Roisin (General Co-Chair)
- Université Pierre Mendès-France and INRIA
- cecile.roisin@inrialpes.fr
- Ethan V. Munson (General Co-Chair)
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- munson@uwm.edu
- Christine Vanoirbeek (Program Chair)
- Swiss Federal Institute of Technology
- christine.vanoirbeek@epfl.ch
Submission information
Authors are invited to submit original, unpublished research papers that are not being considered in another forum. Authors may submit full papers (up to 10 pages length) or short papers (up to 3 pages in length). Full papers should describe complete works of original research. Short papers provide an opportunity to report on research in progress, to present novel positions on document engineering, or to demonstrate exciting new systems. Full paper presentations will be 30 minutes in length, while short papers will be presented in 15 minutes.

Panel organizers are invited to submit panel proposals. A panel should bring together a variety of expert voices on a topic of considerable interest. The topic may be interesting because it is controversial, because it is of great importance to society or to the field, or because it leads us to think about future directions for document engineering. A panel proposal may be up to three pages in length. It should describe the topic of the panel and why it will be interesting to the symposium's participants. It should also list the panelists, briefly describing their expertise and should note whether any panelist's participation is tentative. (Note: panelists are expected to register for the symposium.)

Detailed submission information will be found on the Document Engineering Web site at http://www.documentengineering.org

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David Brailsford, University of Nottingham, UK
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Richard Furuta, Texas A&I University, USA
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