Special Issue

Algorithms and Methods for Designing and Scheduling Smart Manufacturing Systems

Message from the Guest Editors

Smart manufacturing practice is undoubtedly considered a paradigm shift in manufacturing technology. This conception is part of the Industry 4.0 strategy or equivalent national policies and brings new challenges and opportunities for the companies that are facing tough global competition. The introduction of smart manufacturing systems is associated with the adaptation of the Internet of Things, cyberphysical systems, artificial intelligence, advanced robotics, cloud technology, and so forth. Moreover, the implementation of these technologies is paving the way for the digital evolution, which is impacting almost all industries and sectors worldwide. As a prime example of co-existence traditional, existing manufacturing methods and I4.0 technologies are efforts to develop integrative models supporting both lean manufacturing tools and I4.0 technologies. This Special Issue aims to collect original contributions related to designing and scheduling smart manufacturing systems.

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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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