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Railway Safety 2020

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Message from the Guest Editors

The railway is one of the safest modes of transportation. The aim of this special edition is to address new challenges for railway safety. These challenges are mainly caused by the introduction of digital technologies. One challenge is how to handle risk and safety analysis for the approval of new digital systems. Another challenge is that for the safe operation of a highly automated system, appropriate degraded mode strategies are crucial. This is closely related to operating and safeworking rules that have a significant impact on the system's safety. A key element for railway safety is human factors. In a highly automated system, human operators have to maintain sufficient situational awareness to prevent them from misjudging a situation when taking action under staff resposibility in failure mode. While railway accidents are a rather common occurence, appropriate methods for accident investigation to detect weak parts of the system are also an important part of safety management. A common frame around all this is the corporate safety culture of the railway companies. Researchers may submit paper dealing with any of these aspects.



