**Factory Planning and Control for Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SME’s)**

Organizers: Paulo J.S. Gonçalves, Nuno O. Fernandes, António M. Fernandes

The objective of this special session is to provide a forum of discussion of new ideas, methods and tools used in Production Planning and Control (PPC) in for Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SME’s). In this way, the knowledge and experience in new methods and approaches can be shared amongst participants.

The characteristics of SMEs present particular challenges to the implementation of PPC concepts. SMEs often produce a wide variety of products in low volumes in a Make-To-Order (MTO) or Engineering-To-Order (ETO) basis, with limited financial resources and where the adoption of robotics technology has been complex to install, up to now.

Papers addressing the above issues can be submitted in the following main themes:

* Concurrent manufacturing control
* Modeling and simulation of SME’S
* Control of machines, robots and factories for manufacturing
* Man-Machine interaction in a Cognitive factory scenario
* Reconfigurable and agile factory planning
* Implementation of Planning and Control systems in SME’s
* Pull-push systems and mechanisms for manufacturing and materials flow control in SME’s
* Logistics, material-flow and supply chain
* Quality control and management in SME’s
* Agile reconfiguration of manufacturing systems

Paulo J.S. Gonçalves (paulo.goncalves@ipcb.pt)
[Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polytechnic_Institute_of_Castelo_Branco), Portugal

Nuno O. Fernandes (nogf@ipcb.pt)
[Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polytechnic_Institute_of_Castelo_Branco), Portugal

António M. Fernandes (amfernandes@ipcb.pt)
[Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polytechnic_Institute_of_Castelo_Branco), Portugal