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## International Journal of Automotive Technology and Management (IJATM)

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**Special Issue on: "Inter-Firm Networks, Governance and Innovation in the Automotive Industry"**

**Guest Editors:**

**Assoc.-Prof. Dr. Harald Stummer, University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics and Technology – UMIT, Austria**

**Prof. Dr. Klaus Heine, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands**  
**Assoc.-Prof. Dr. Herwig Ostermann, University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics and Technology – UMIT, Austria**

The automotive industry is one of the most studied industries, which holds especially true for research on innovations, inter-firm networks and governance mechanisms within these networks. However, recently, major changes have occurred, triggered partly by the current financial crisis.

Questions raised include:

- Which organisational innovations have taken place in the automotive industry in recent years?
- Is lean management still the benchmark for organising the manufacturing of automobiles?
- What can be said of the national innovation systems? For example, are there differences between European, Japanese and US car manufacturers with regard to the degree of outsourcing R&D?
- Does the nationality of the car manufacturer critical for R&D activity?
- Did design thinking change the process of innovation?
- And what about user or internet driven innovations?

Another question of interest is the phase in which



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an innovative idea is developed, chosen or rejected. At what stage of the innovation process are innovations rejected or reinforced and how is this done?

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### 🔍 **Subject Coverage**

Papers to be included in this special issue should be focused on one or more of the following subjects (the list is indicative rather than exhaustive):

- Inter-firm networks
- Governance and innovation in the automotive industry
- Technology transfer in networks
- Technology transfer and governments
- Innovation systems and the automotive industry
- Organisational innovations
- Design thinking for innovations
- The process or the stages of (non-)innovation

Case studies, surveys and papers based on empirical data are preferred; a rigorous research methodology is required, as well as a review of existing literature and adequate reference to bibliographical sources. Contributions will be subjected to double-blind review

### 🔍 **Notes for Prospective Authors**

Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. (N.B. Conference papers may only be submitted if the paper was not originally copyrighted and if it has been completely re-written).

All papers are refereed through a peer review process. A guide for authors, sample copies and other relevant information for submitting papers are available on the [Author Guidelines](#) page

### 🔍 **Important Dates**

Deadline for (extended) abstract submission: *1 February 2010*

Response by guest editor: *28 February 2010*

Deadline for full paper submission: *31 May 2010*

### 🔍 **Editors and Notes**

You may send one copy in the form of an MS Word file attached to an e-mail (details in [Author Guidelines](#)) to the following:

Assoc.-Prof. Dr. Harald Stummer  
Department for Human and  
Economic Sciences  
University for Health Sciences,  
Medical Informatics and Technology  
Operring 5/2  
A-1010 Vienna  
Austria  
*Tel:* +43 50 8648 3950  
*E-mail:* [harald.stummer@umit.at](mailto:harald.stummer@umit.at)

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name of the Guest Editor

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