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## Editorial

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The 9th CIRP IPSS Conference: Circular Perspectives on Product/Service-Systems

Editorial

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In an ever-changing world, the roles of product development, business innovation, advanced manufacturing, service delivery and end-of-life management become increasingly important to enhance the competitiveness of industrial companies. The boundaries between disciplines soften and it is increasingly apparent that the scope for innovation and market disruption is to be found in the careful integration of numerous life cycle activities as the object of design.

Industrial Product/Service-Systems (IPSS) are one answer to this development, offering solutions towards the conceptualisation, design, planning and deployment of new solutions and value propositions in fundamentally different ways than before. Implicit in the philosophy behind IPSS is to create customer-oriented solutions that function for longer and thus increase resource productivity, minimise resource consumption and enhance the ultimate value-add to the end user. In this context, PSS solutions have a great potential to enable the transition to a Circular Economy, where the goal is to think in circular product- and system life cycles, rather than our current linear “take-make-waste” paradigm.

This Procedia CIRP Special Issue collects manuscripts from the 9<sup>th</sup> CIRP IPSS Conference, IPSS2017, which focused its theme on “Circular Perspectives on Product/Service-Systems”. With this theme, the conference, and therefore these manuscripts, have explored how the transition to a Circular Economy can be supported by PSS, in terms of life cycle, sustainability, optimisation, design and user satisfaction. The Special Issue is organised in five complementary and synergic tracks, offering a holistic and systemic view on the circular perspectives of PSS. The five tracks are as follows:

- **PSS as enablers for Circular Economy in a Sustainability Context:** In this track, opportunities and challenges experienced or envisaged, when transitioning to Circular Economy through PSS are discussed, with a reflection about the role of PSS in achieving sustainability.
- **Organisational capabilities for PSS implementation:** business model innovation, servitisation processes, key business activities and changing work systems are discussed in the context of PSS implementation in companies.
- **Engineering design approaches and methods for PSS:** explores the development and implementation of PSS design methods, tools and approaches, with focus on simulation and Design for X, including Design for Value and Service Design.
- **PSS and the digital transformation:** augmented production systems and the Industry 4.0 concept are discussed in a PSS context, bringing applications for the management of PSS during its life cycle and operation.
- **PSS cases and success stories:** presents a set of success stories and case studies on PSS implementation in industry, highlighting barriers and success factors for its effective implementation.

We hope that you will find the proceeding an interesting source of information and inspiration in your endeavours related to PSS. We would like to express our deep gratitude to the organising committee, to the international programme committee, to the authors and to all participants for making the CIRP IPSS2017conference a lively platform for the exchange of ideas, knowledge and new perspectives.