

Editorial

An Open-Access Journal for Digital, Smart, Sustainable, and Human-Centric Industry

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Industrial systems worldwide are undergoing rapid transformation driven by advances in digital technologies, artificial intelligence, and data-driven methodologies. Emerging paradigms such as Industry 4.0 and Industry 5.0 are reshaping how industrial systems are designed, operated, and governed. In response to these developments, *Industries* (ISSN 3042-9021) [1] has been launched as a new open-access journal dedicated to publishing high-quality, interdisciplinary research at the intersection of industrial engineering, digital technologies, and strategic management.

Industries aims to provide an international forum for original research that addresses both fundamental scientific questions and real-world industrial challenges. The journal welcomes contributions that advance theory, methods, and applications, with a particular emphasis on research that demonstrates clear industrial relevance and future impact.

The journal invites submissions across a broad range of topics, including but not limited to:

- Digital transformation enabled by advanced digital technologies and artificial intelligence;
- Smart manufacturing and industrial systems, including AI, industrial big data, robotics, large-scale models, and human–machine interaction within Industry 4.0 and Industry 5.0;
- Sustainable manufacturing and the circular economy, such as low-carbon technologies, remanufacturing, resource efficiency, and AI-supported pathways toward carbon neutrality;
- Human-centric industrial systems that integrate human factors, collaboration, and well-being into smart and automated environments;
- Industrial strategy, technology commercialization, and industrial ecosystems.

As an open-access journal, *Industries* is committed to the principles of Open Science. Open-access publishing promotes rapid and transparent dissemination of research results, reduces barriers to knowledge sharing, and accelerates the transfer of scientific advances into industrial practice. This model is particularly important for engineering and applied research communities, where timely access to new knowledge can directly influence industrial innovation and competitiveness.

Industries places strong emphasis on originality, significance, and technical depth, while encouraging authors to clearly articulate research motivation and industrial application scenarios of their work. Submissions grounded in real industrial contexts, addressing practical challenges, and offering critical reflections on implementation and impact are especially welcome.

The journal also warmly welcomes submissions from early-career researchers and doctoral students. We encourage research that is both intellectually ambitious and firmly



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connected to industrial practice—work that originates from real-world observations, abstracts underlying scientific problems, and contributes new theoretical insights. Leveraging the MDPI platform, *Industries* is committed to providing an efficient, constructive, and supportive peer-review process, with particular attention to first-time journal authors.

The establishment of *Industries* is motivated by the rapid development of research areas such as artificial intelligence, robotics, industrial data analytics, large-scale models, and human–machine interaction, all of which hold significant potentials for industrial transformation. The journal is envisioned as a vibrant and forward-looking platform that fosters dialogue between academia and the industry.

Looking ahead, *Industries* aspires to become, in the coming years, a widely recognized journal in the areas of digital transformation, smart manufacturing, sustainable development, and human-centric industry. By accelerating the dissemination of high-quality research and promoting interdisciplinary collaboration, *Industries* aims to contribute meaningfully to the future of industrial systems.

We warmly invite researchers, practitioners, and students worldwide to submit their latest work to *Industries* and to join us in shaping the future of the industry.

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Reference

1. *Industries* Home Page. Available online: <https://www.mdpi.com/journal/industries> (accessed on 20 January 2026).

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