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## Foreword

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**Biographical note:** Dr Binshan Lin is Professor of Operations and Information Management at Louisiana State University in Shreveport. He received his PhD from the Louisiana State University. He is a six-time recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Award at LSU. Dr Lin also received the Ben Bauman Award for Excellence in International Association for Computer Information Systems 2003, Outstanding Educator Award in Southwest Decision Science Institute 2004, Emerald Literati Club Awards for Excellence 2003 Outstanding Paper Award and Alpha Iota Delta Paper Award Winner in Southwest Decision Science Institute 2001 Conference. Professor Lin has published over 120 articles in refereed journals and over 110 articles in conference proceedings. He serves as Editor-in-Chief of seven academic journals.

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There is a growing demand to provide a thorough understanding of both *services* and *standards* along with their foundations to meet industry and academic needs. Standardisation is the process of creating technical standards for diffusion into the marketplace, consisting of a set of technical specifications adhered to by a producer, either tacitly or as a result of a formal agreement. We strongly believe that the area of services and standards is a very dynamic field of study and has real practical implications on the real world. The *International Journal of Services and Standards (IJSS)* aims to satisfy these needs by providing rigorous and timely research happening at the forefront of services and standards for both, the academia and the industry.

### Journal orientation

The *IJSS*, a new refereed journal having four printed issues per year, is seeking articles that will present current practice, model and theory, in *services* and *standards* development, design, management, implementation and applications. The objectives of the journal are to develop, promote and coordinate the development and practice of services and standards. It aims to help professionals working in the field of services and standards, academic educators and policy-makers to contribute, disseminate knowledge and learn from each other's work in the area. The international dimension is emphasised in order to overcome cultural and national barriers and meet the needs of accelerating technological change and changes in the global economy.

The *IJSS* is an international journal designed to bridge the contributing academic disciplines and link academia with industry and other communities. The central mission

of *IJSS* is to publish original, well-written, self-contained contributions that elucidate novel research in both services and standards which, advance the field fundamentally and significantly.

Published quarterly, the *IJSS* publishes original and review papers, technical reports, case studies, conference reports, management reports, book reviews and commentaries.

### **Subject coverage**

Although the possible set of paper topics is large and we encourage submission on any area within the scope of services and standards, the following areas are particularly suitable (but are not limited to):

- major role of standardisation in IT industry
- adoption, acceptance and diffusion of standards by different technological and industrial communities
- accounting standardisation of and for accounting services
- service learning standards and research
- quality services and service standards
- information quality standards
- homeland security standards
- information quality and e-commerce
- e-learning standards and specifications
- service standards, warranty and guarantees
- trading standards
- service standards initiative
- P3P and privacy
- W3C and standards
- business process modeling (BPM) standards
- service standards initiative
- strategy for client-sensitive service standards
- IT and service standards management
- IT service management standards
- e-procurement and service standards
- supply chain management and service standards
- RFID and privacy standards
- service process models

- six sigma and standardization
- service process models
- computer standards and interfaces
- ISO and service standards
- service standards: where do we go from here?
- service standards model
- standardization in e-learning
- standardization in e-business
- standardization in e-government
- real estate and standardisation
- standardization in e-government
- HIPAA and e-healthcare
- standardization in e-government
- accounting standards in services
- economics standard conformance measures and metrics
- service standards for global markets
- stakeholder analysis and impact for standards creation and diffusion
- technical aspects in service standards
- cultural, social and political issues in service standards.

### **In this inaugural issue**

We received an overwhelming response (more than 140 paper submissions) from leading academic and industrial researchers to our call for papers for the inaugural issue of *IJSS*. Due to constraints of space, we have decided to select the best eight papers for the inaugural issue. The inaugural issue will, hence, be Volume 1, No. 1, 2004.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to *Inderscience's* staff for their high-quality professional assistance during the pre-publication process and to our editorial team and board members for their continuous support during the journal's planning phase. We also wish to acknowledge a very large number of colleagues from all across the world who have made *IJSS* a reality; they have contributed enormously to its research and development, right from concepts inception to final paper form. A sincere 'Thank You' to all!