

# ***Call for Papers***

## **SPT 2009**

### **Converging Technologies, Changing Societies**

#### **16<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Society for Philosophy and Technology**

***July 8-10***

**University of Twente  
Enschede, The Netherlands**

***Deadline for abstracts: January 5, 2009***

SPT 2009 welcomes high quality papers and panel proposals in all areas of philosophy of technology. Given the focus of this year's conference, papers dealing with converging technologies and their social and cultural impact are especially welcomed. SPT 2009 will include 15 tracks, amongst which the following is of special interest for you:

#### **15. Reflective engineering. Chair: Darryl Farber**

Reflective Engineering – this track will focus on reflection in the practice of engineering and how the reflective practice of engineering is essential for a better understanding of design as well as an understanding of the potential impacts of innovation. The track is a direct outgrowth of the Workshops on Philosophy and Engineering (WPE-2007 in Delft, WPE-2008 in London) and the growing cooperation between WPE and SPT. In particular, the reflective engineering track at SPT2009 is designed to give practitioners the opportunity to express views about engineering thought and practice in a setting vetted largely by other reflective practitioners. At WPE this role was played by the deme entitled “Philosophical Reflections of Practitioners” and track 15 at SPT2009 is designed to play a similar role at SPT2009. Reviewers for track 15 will be drawn from the ranks of reviewers for WPE and other reflective practitioners.

The track seeks thoughtful reflections by engineers and other technology practitioners on a variety of topics. Particularly interesting is how reflective practice influences the engineering of complex, large-scale, integrated, open systems (CLIOS), such as infra-structure systems—energy—water—waste-- buildings—communications— transport as well as agricultural engineered systems, space systems, information systems, health systems, or manufacturing systems. Impacts on social systems, physical earth systems, and natural ecosystems will be considered.

Descriptions of all the tracks can be found on our website [www.utwente.nl/ceptes/spt2009](http://www.utwente.nl/ceptes/spt2009).

**Papers** will be accepted on the basis of a submitted abstract, which will be refereed. An abstract must be between 500 and 750 words in length (references excluded) and submitted via email ([spt2009@utwente.nl](mailto:spt2009@utwente.nl)) as embedded plain text or an attachment in RTF or WORD (no docx) or PDF format. It should also contain

the name and number of the track to which the abstract is submitted. Abstracts must be submitted no later than **January 5, 2009**. Authors will be informed of the decision of the referees by **March 2, 2009**.

**Panel Proposals.** We will also accept proposals for panel discussions, also to be submitted by January 5, 2009. Panel proposals must include a statement of the general topic and an overview of the specific questions or issues to be addressed. In addition, the proposal should include a list of the panelists involved, their expertise in this area, and whether they have indicated that they are willing to participate.

The **SPT conference series** is recognized as the premier international event in philosophy of technology, with delegates from all over the world. Conferences are held every 2 years, alternating between Europe and the United States. **SPT 2009** is the 16<sup>th</sup> conference in the series.

#### **Organizing Committee:**

General Director: Philip Brey, University of Twente  
Scientific Directors: Peter-Paul Verbeek and Tsjalling Swierstra, University of Twente  
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Keep checking the *conference website* (currently in progress) at [www.utwente.nl/ceptes/spt2009](http://www.utwente.nl/ceptes/spt2009)

**Conference email address:** spt2009(at)utwente.nl