The global competition is pushing companies to improve manufacturing efficiency. From a broad perspective, two approaches have been undertaken to improve company performances. On the one side, lean methodologies have been used to focus processes on value creation and waste reduction. On the other side, information tools and automation systems have been implemented to plan and control activities in detail.

For a long time, the two approaches have been considered mutually independent. However the rapid evolution of the Industry 4.0 paradigm poses new challenges for their mutual support; in particular:

- How can Industry 4.0 enable the implementation of Lean practices?
- How can the Lean approach empower the deployment of Industry 4.0 technologies?

PLM18 will bring together researchers, educators, professionals, and students from different regions of the world to discuss the impact of digitisation in their environment.

**Key themes**

Contributions are welcome in the field of Lean Organization practices into Industry 4.0 environments, including:

- Lean Organization tools
- Lean Manufacturing applications
- Lean approach to support non-manufacturing departments (e.g. product development, supply chain management, accounting, …)
- The role of information systems in supporting lean practices
- The role of automation systems in supporting lean practices

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**Important dates**

- 2018, January 31st: Abstract submission
- 2018, February 28th: Paper submission
- 2018, April 15th: Review notification
- 2018, May 15th: Camera ready due
- 2018, May 31st: Early bird registration
- 2018, June 25th: Registration deadline