**Product Lines and Variability Management – a Short List of Main Conferences**

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**Abstract**

*Product Line Engineering* (PLE) emerged as an efficient approach to reduce product development costs through reuse of engineering artifacts. Advances in this domain include variability modeling, automatic reasoning about variability and formalization of product line engineering processes (i.e. standard ISO/IEC 26550). These topics are included in the “Group A” conferences below. A few broad subjects such as architecture design strategies for reuse (e.g. *modular architectures, product platforms*) are often found in industrial engineering, engineering design, or sometimes manufacturing related conferences, some of which are mentioned in “Group B” below. Finally, *mass customization*, a method that aims at postponing product differentiation until the latest possible phase of the product lifecycle, relies mostly on the same concepts, tools and techniques (e.g. configurators, variability modeling), but focuses more on customer involvement and manufacturing processes that enable customization. Due to its similarities with PLE, this theme also appears in “Group A”.

**[Group A] Conferences focused on product families and variability subjects**

**Keywords: product lines, (systems and *software*) variability management, configuration process, variability modeling**

* SSPLC : Systems and Software Product Line Conference
  + Previous event – July 20-24 2015, Nashville, TN - [www.splc2015.net](http://www.splc2015.net)
  + Scope of events: Research Papers, Industry Papers, Workshops, Tutorials, Panels, Demos and Tools
  + Domain: Mainly software (product lines), but open to systems engineering problems, process management issues, methods, tools.
* VaMoS : Workshop on Variability Modelling of Software-intensive Systems
  + Previous event : 2014, January 22-24 – Nice, France - <http://vamos2014.unice.fr/>
  + Scope : Research papers and demonstrations of tools
  + Domain: Software product lines
* Smart Variant.Con
  + Previous event : Smart Variant.Con 2014 Berlin 23-24, June 2014 - <http://variantenmanagement2014.we-conect.com>
  + Scope : Industry Case Studies, Industry Papers, Demos and Tools
  + Domain: Variability Management, Product Lifecycle Management processes, methods and tools to support variability.
* MCPC : World Conference on Mass Customization, Personalization, and Co-Creation
  + Previous event: 4 – 7 February 2014, <http://www.mcpc2014.aau.dk>
  + Scope : Research and Industry papers
  + Domain : Configuration processes (choice navigation), product modelling for product families, product design, modularity, product platforms, product portfolios, design processes, manufacturing for mass customization
* Workshop on Configuration
  + Previous event : 25 – 26 September 2014, <http://confws.ist.tugraz.at/ConfigurationWorkshop2014/>
  + Scope : Research Papers
  + Domain : configuration problems and models, reasoning methods, applications and tools, business process integration

# IWCTG: International Workshop on Combinatorial Testing

* + Previous event : 31 March - 4th of April, Cleveland Ohio <https://www.research.ibm.com/haifa/Workshops/iwct2014/index.shtml>
  + Scope : Research papers and posters
  + Domain: Combinatorial Software Testing, Software Product Line Testing

**[Group B] General engineering conferences encompassing product family related subjects**

**Keywords: product platforms, modularity, modular architectures**

* IDC Symposium on Product Family and Product Platform Design
  + Event : 11 February 2014
  + Reference: <http://idc.sutd.edu.sg/events/idc-symposium-product-family-product-platform-design/>
* ICED : International Conference on Engineering Design
  + Previous event : 19 – 22 August 2013, <http://www.iced13.org/callforpapers.asp>
  + Next edition : 27 – 30 July 2015, <http://iced2015.org>
  + Scope: Research and industry papers
  + Domain : design – processes, organization , management, methods and tools; products, services and systems design
* CD : International Conference on Concurrent Engineering
  + Previous event: 8 – 11 September 2014, <http://ce2014.bjtu.edu.cn>
  + Scope : Research papers
  + Domain: a wide variety of topics, including Systems Engineering, Product Lifecycle Management, Product Platform development, Requirements management, Variability management, measuring/ analyzing product variety, managing product variety etc.