



22nd International CDIO Conference

*Enhancing Student Professional Development:
Innovation in Assessment and Feedback*

22-25 June 2026

University of Liverpool, United Kingdom

www.CDIO2026.co.uk

Call for Papers

September 2025

The CDIO approach (www.cdio.org) is an innovative educational framework designed to produce the next generation of engineers. It emphasizes engineering fundamentals within the context of Conceiving — Designing — Implementing — Operating (CDIO) real-world systems, products, processes, and services.

Recognising the diverse paths of engineering education, CDIO collaborators understand that programs vary in length and stage across different institutions, and that educators everywhere can benefit from shared practices. Throughout the year, CDIO institutions, educators, and researchers come together to exchange ideas, review developments, and refine the CDIO approach.

The CDIO initiative welcomes your ideas and invites proposals for **papers, working groups, workshops** and **roundtables** at the 22nd International CDIO Conference taking place from June 22nd to June 25th in Liverpool, UK.

Conference Themes

Under the main theme “**Enhancing Student Professional Development: innovation in assessment and feedback**” this year’s conference aims to explore innovative assessment approaches that focus on the development of professional engineering competencies, skills and attitudes.

Sub-Themes

Along with contributions in line with the main theme of the conference, we would also like to see contributions that address some aspect of the following sub-themes:

- Creating ethical and socially responsible professionals of the future.
- Encouraging the use of emotion and reason when solving wicked problems.
- Integrating sustainability principles into engineering education.
- Designing inclusive and equitable learning environments that foster global mindsets.
- Empowering students to become life-long learners.
- Industrial collaborations that enhance student experience and education.
- Harnessing simulation, modelling and AI to enhance learning and teaching.
- Taking a transdisciplinary approach to building knowledge and solving problems.

Further suggestions for contributions

In addition to submissions that align with the theme and sub-themes, we warmly welcome traditional CDIO contributions. These include topics such as curriculum development, design-build-test experiences, faculty development, engineering education research, and innovative learning environments - all of which remain central to our community and practice.



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Submission Categories

SCOPUS Indexing: Please note that the CDIO Proceedings are SCOPUS Indexed.

Papers

Contributions in this category require a paper that meets the standards set in peer review. Papers are at most 10 pages. Longer manuscripts can also be considered when appropriate; however, the authors are encouraged to write concisely, and the length of the paper must be justified by the substance of the contribution. The review process will follow two phases (see the respective deadlines on page 5):

1. submission of a full paper following the template and the criteria; and
2. submission of the final version of the paper revised taking reviewer suggestions into account.

All papers submitted by the final deadline are distributed electronically to the attendees of the conference. In addition, the papers accepted to the tracks Engineering Education Research, Advances in CDIO, and CDIO Implementation (see descriptions of all tracks below), as well as the State-of-the-art Papers from the working groups, are archived on the CDIO website (www.cdio.org) and are included in the electronic conference proceedings publication.

Paper submissions are being accepted in four tracks

Engineering Education Research (EER): This track is for papers that can support the improvement of engineering education while also contributing to the body of knowledge in the field of engineering education. Contributions require a full paper, meeting criteria for scholarlyness and usefulness for improving engineering education, and supporting the goals of the CDIO Initiative. Papers must meet expectations for original scholarly publication, including adequate contextualization in the relevant literature. They are jointly reviewed by engineering education researchers and practitioners (senior CDIO implementers). If the draft paper is “accepted with changes”, the submitted final paper will be reviewed again.

Advances in CDIO: This track is for papers that contribute an advance to the state of the art in the CDIO framework or community, or in CDIO-based education. This may involve an extension or revision of the CDIO framework, comparisons of the CDIO framework with other frameworks, introduction of new CDIO central materials (e.g., revised syllabus, standards, self-evaluation rubrics, etc.). The contributions must meet the expectations for original scholarly publication.

CDIO Implementation: These contributions describe a particular implementation of CDIO principles in a practical setting. They may be case studies of the program-level implementation at a particular institution. They may offer a deep reflection on experiences with courses, projects, instruction and assessment methods, or workspaces. These contributions must be of general interest to the conference participants, be examples of good practices proven through evaluation or critical examinations, and demonstrate awareness of the relevant previous CDIO conference literature. The contributions must meet the expectations for original scholarly publication.



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CDIO Projects in Progress: These contributions describe initial development, current activities and preliminary results on projects that may not yet have reached completion. This provides an opportunity for authors to share results with other conference attendees and benefit from timely input. Depending on feedback in the peer-review process, some papers submitted to the other tracks (EER, Advances in CDIO, CDIO Implementation) may be selected by the program committee for presentation in this track. Papers in this track will be distributed electronically to the conference attendees but will not be archived on the CDIO website or included in the proceedings.

Workshops, Roundtables and Working Groups

Contributions in these categories require an Activity Description no longer than two pages, which will be distributed to the conference participants but neither archived nor included in the proceedings. The review process of activity submissions has deadlines that coincide with the Papers category and include:

- submission of an outline not exceeding 500 words; and
- submission of a two-page activity description offering greater detail about the plan for participants.

Final submissions must follow a template provided for one of the following three formats:

Workshops: A workshop may be on a fundamental level that presumes little prior knowledge, or it may be more advanced for experienced participants to gain further knowledge or skills, or a new perspective. Submission of a workshop theme requires an Activity Description that describes a topic and outline of either a 60- or a 120-minute session, with a considerable active component.

Roundtable Discussions: These are informal discussions of a topic proposed by a roundtable facilitator. The goal of a roundtable discussion can be, for example, to generate ideas for a particular problem facing engineering educators or to collaborate on a new advancement within CDIO. The Activity Description should outline the topic and contain discussion questions.

Working Groups: Much of the development work in the CDIO Community is carried out in the working groups that meet at the regular meetings and conferences. Their work continues between meetings and suggestions and developments are presented and discussed at the regional and international conferences during the year. The working groups are central to developing the CDIO Community.

The working groups are formed by about 5-10 participants with a common interest. The group will start working together remotely at least two months prior to the conference. They can also continue their work throughout the conference. Shortly after the conference they submit a State-of-the-art Paper for inclusion in the proceedings (after review by the Program Committee). The Activity Description must outline the topic that the working group will focus on and the activities that they will do before the conference. If accepted, the person(s) submitting the proposal will be the leader(s) of the working group. The leader(s) selects the participants among conference delegates who express interest. Each working group member must register for and attend the conference in order to be considered a contributor to the State-of-the-art Paper.



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Authors must indicate their preferred presentation format during paper submission. Papers in all four tracks described above can be presented either as Podium Presentation or Poster Presentation. The presentation format may be changed by the Program Committee as part of the review process.

Please consult the criteria for each track at the [conference website](#).

Session Formats

The Program Committee makes the final decisions on the presentation format to suit the nature of each contribution. Since the goal of the conference is collaboration and sharing of ideas, formats that foster interaction are desired.

Podium Presentations: The presentations will follow a traditional conference format of multiple, parallel tracks with short presentations followed by Q&A.

Poster Presentations: Posters provided by the authors will be on display in a central area where authors can discuss the work with interested attendees. At the poster session, the author prepares one slide and makes a 1-minute pitch.

Workshop: Workshops are interactive sessions on a specific topic with activities that are intended to engage the participants. They are either 60- or 120 minutes. Facilities will be allocated for each workshop on site.

Roundtable Discussion: Informal discussion of a topic proposed by a roundtable facilitator. A short contribution will provide the background and discussion questions. The participants may of course decide to form a working group and carry their collaboration beyond the context of the conference. Facilities will be allocated for each roundtable on site.

Working Group: The working group presents its preliminary results to conference attendees at a plenary, and submits a final State-of-the-art Paper shortly after the conference (according to the deadline agreed with the conference organizers). The final paper is reviewed by the program committee and, upon acceptance, published in the proceedings.

Submission Process

PLEASE NOTE: As of the 2025 CDIO conference, the abstract then full paper process has been changed to a single-phase submission process. A full paper (full description for workshops, working groups and roundtables) is required at time of submission.

The ConfTool platform will be used for all submissions. A link can be found on the conference website.

The corresponding author must ensure each submission has a title (max 10 words) authors bio and affiliations, an abstract, a suggested conference track and, the preferred type of presentation. Further guidance documents can be found at the conference website



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The submission must follow the formatting requirements detailed in the template on the conference website (www.cdio2026.co.uk) and must include a Creative Commons License to allow it to be included in the proceedings and/or archived on the CDIO website.

Furthermore, at least one of the authors must register by the final submission deadline, participate in the conference and present the contribution. If no author is registered by the deadline (1st May, 2026), the contribution is considered withdrawn from the program.

Important Dates

| Papers, Workshops & Roundtables | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Submission deadline | 16th Jan. 2026 |
| Notification of acceptance | 9th March 2026 |
| Revised submission deadline | 7th April 2026 |
| Final Submission and registration deadline | 1st May 2026 |

| Working Groups | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Submission deadline | 16th Jan. 2026 |
| Notification of acceptance | 1st Feb. 2026 |
| WG sign-up deadline | 30th March 2026 |
| WG member acceptance | 7th April 2026 |
| Final Submission and registration deadline | 1st May 2026 |

The review process for working group proposals will follow a streamlined review process this year, typically conducted by a small sub-committee, allowing for earlier feedback and notification.

Submission Guide

| Contribution Category | Track | Page Limit | Review | Publication | Presentation format |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Paper | Engineering Education Research | 10 | Single-blind review | Proceedings and CDIO Archive | Podium or Poster |
| | Advances in CDIO | | | | |
| | CDIO Implementation | | | Distributed to participants only | |
| | CDIO Projects in Progress | | | | |
| Activity | Workshop | 2 | Programme Committee | Distributed to participants only | Workshop |
| | Roundtable | | | | Roundtable Discussion |
| | Working Group | | | Proceedings and CDIO Archive | Meeting |

General Criteria for Selection

- Relevance to the conference theme and tracks
- Novelty of innovative ideas with proven results.
- Potential to stimulate thought and discussion
- Applicability of ideas, programs, and practices to the CDIO community
- Compliance with the criteria for the particular submission tracks

Please consult the conference website for Specific Criteria for the different tracks and Templates for papers and activities .

Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement

Contributions that will be published in the CDIO Proceedings are expected to meet the standards set by the referees. The contributions should meet the expectations for original scholarly publication, including adequate review of relevant literature, a hypothesis, results of simulations or measurements, analysis, and conclusions. They may address any area of CDIO, including scholarly examinations of CDIO implementation. The submission must follow the formatting requirements detailed in the template available on the conference website and must include a Creative Commons License to allow it to be included in the proceedings and/or archived on the CDIO website.



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AI Usage Declaration

We recognise the growing role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in research and academic writing. To maintain the integrity and transparency of the research process, we require that any use of AI tools or software in the research, analysis, or writing of submitted papers must be clearly and honestly acknowledged. Authors must provide a detailed explanation of how AI was used in their work, including the specific tools utilised and the extent of their contribution.

AI in Peer Review

It is important to note that the use of AI tools to review submitted papers or to generate peer review reports is strictly prohibited. The papers submitted for review are unpublished works, and the use of AI to process these documents can result in unauthorised data processing, potentially breaching confidentiality agreements and intellectual property laws.

Reviewers are expected to engage with the content using their own expertise and judgment. Failure to adhere to these guidelines could result in the disqualification of the reviewer or the withdrawal of the paper from consideration.

For further information, please contact committee@cdio2026.co.uk