Inspec Content & Selection Policy

What is Inspec?

The IET Inspec database is one of the world’s most definitive bibliographic scientific databases, containing nearly 20 million abstracts and specialised indexing to the world’s quality research literature in the fields of engineering, physics and computing.

Inspec has long been respected as the most authoritative resource for pinpointing important literature. Built on the renowned Inspec thesaurus, the quality of the Inspec database is assured thanks to the curation of content and detailed indexing carried out by the IET’s subject experts. Offering timely access to high quality research, Inspec:

- Gets researchers straight to relevant research, saving valuable time and effort
- Ensures consistency of results, delivering accurate, current findings search after search
- Helps researchers make critical decisions based on trustworthy resources

As such, it is the index of choice for over 95% of the world’s top engineering departments.
**Scope and coverage of Inspec**

Inspec is divided into five main subject areas: **Physics, Electrical Engineering and Electronics, Computers and Control, IT for Business and Mechanical & Production Engineering**. Inspec only contains content within this scope. Full information on the detailed subject areas can be found here:

[www.theiet.org/resources/inspec/about/coverage](http://www.theiet.org/resources/inspec/about/coverage)

All material within Inspec is indexed and classified by the specialised indexing teams, consisting of highly-experienced subject experts using the renowned Inspec thesaurus and classification scheme. Both systems are regularly updated and expanded to cover the latest technological and scientific developments.

**The evaluation process**

The research landscape is constantly changing and Inspec keeps pace with this rapid change through a constant process to identify and evaluate relevant content.

The evaluation is conducted by Inspec subject experts, all extremely experienced in assigning and creating the unique Inspec precision indexing and classification system for their area of scientific focus.
**CONTENT TYPES**

**Journals**
International research or review journals within the scope of Inspec with an editorial board which are peer-reviewed and have an ISSN number. They should be published on a regular basis and have an established publication record.

In order to be considered for inclusion in Inspec, journals need to meet the following criteria in full:

- Clearly relevant subject matter
- Have a regular publication schedule
- Have an established Editorial Board
- Have an ISSN number
- Contain peer-reviewed articles
- Contain English-language content (Title + Abstract minimum requirement)

These criteria are the minimum requirement for titles to go on to be evaluated and a range of other criteria are involved in the overall selection process.

**Journal Coverage**
If a journal is accepted, indexing will commence from the first issue received by Inspec. The Publishers of the journal will be contacted by Inspec to discuss the supply and indexing of journal back numbers to the start of the year during which indexing begins.

**Conferences**
Conference papers, presentations and other materials can include critical early-stage research before it is even published in the journal literature and are therefore an important area for Inspec.

Published literature from conferences, symposia, seminars, colloquia, workshops and conventions worldwide which have a proper peer-review selection process and publish full-text papers can be included. Conference proceedings should not be submitted more than a year after the conference took place.

**Trade journals and consumer magazines**
Regularly-published publications covering a specific area of interest, industry, trade or business topics within the overall scope of Inspec. Only feature articles and technical papers will be indexed.

**Books**
Inspec includes academic books that are in scope within the major subject areas within Physics, Engineering, Computing and Technology.

Suggestions from individuals regarding book submissions will not be considered, as Inspec deals directly with Publishers regarding book content. Publishers can contact the Inspec Publisher Relations team directly to discuss the evaluation of relevant publications.

**Other content**
Also included in Inspec are:

- Dissertations
- Reports
- Standards
- Video
- Patents
Content Format

We request that Publishers specify the format in which content would be supplied before the title is accepted for inclusion in Inspec.

Ongoing evaluation

Inspec has to ensure that the database covers the most relevant content to reflect the current scientific research landscape. This means that as well as evaluating new titles and content types for inclusion, titles are also at times deselected.

Title Submissions - How do I have my journal evaluated for inclusion in Inspec?

The Inspec Publisher Relations team encourages Publishers and Editors to submit journals in Physics, Engineering, Computing and Technology for review and consideration for inclusion in the database. Submissions are reviewed using a range of selection criteria, including those outlined above.

We receive hundreds of submissions each year, so please leave at least three months from your initial enquiry before following up.

Contact Us

For further information, or to submit your publication for evaluation, please contact the Publisher Relations team: inspec.submissions@theiet.org