

# IEEE Journal of Oceanic Engineering Call for Papers Special Issue on the IEEE 2026 AUV Symposium

The Journal will publish a Special Issue of papers presented at the 2026 AUV Symposium, held in Southampton, UK between 1-3 September 2026. The symposium is sponsored by the IEEE Oceanic Engineering Society and brings together those working in the field of marine robotics, including autonomous underwater vehicles (AUV), autonomous surface vessels (ASVs), underwater gliders, Argo and Lagrangian floats. Topics of special interest include:

- **Vehicle design:** Design of autonomous marine vehicles and vehicle sub-systems
- **Vehicle planning and control:** Off-line and real-time methods for improved vehicle performance
- **Vehicle navigation and sensing:** Sensor development and data processing for navigation and perception
- **Operations, communication and data management:** Data, communication and mission management, complex operations
- **Science and industrial applications for sustainability:** Marine and heritage science applications, infrastructure management, decarbonisation

The special issue is only open to papers presented at the 2026 AUV Symposium. The special issue review process will be completed before the symposium start, and accepted papers will be made available online with green open access. The journal abstract and a link to the paper will be included in the symposium proceedings. If a paper is accepted and not presented at the symposium, it will be published in a later regular issue of the Journal and its abstract will not be included in the symposium proceedings.

## Guest Editors:

Blair Thornton, University of Southampton (adjunct University of Tokyo), [b.thornton@soton.ac.uk](mailto:b.thornton@soton.ac.uk)

Alexander Phillips, National Oceanography Centre, [abp@noc.ac.uk](mailto:abp@noc.ac.uk)

Yvan Petillot, Herriot Watt University, [Y.R.Petillot@hw.ac.uk](mailto:Y.R.Petillot@hw.ac.uk)

Sara Bernardini, Oxford University, [sara.bernardini@cs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sara.bernardini@cs.ox.ac.uk)

Yogang Singh, Sheffield Hallam University, [y.singh@shu.ac.uk](mailto:y.singh@shu.ac.uk)

Nicholas Townsend, University of Southampton, [N.C.Townsend@soton.ac.uk](mailto:N.C.Townsend@soton.ac.uk)

## Paper Submission Instructions:

All manuscripts must be submitted through the Journal's website: <https://controls.papercept.net/journals/joe>.

Authors should include a cover letter when submitting their manuscript, indicating that the contribution is intended for the "AUV 2026" Special Issue.

Papers submitted for this Special Issue should NOT follow the author instructions posted on the Journal website. Instead, papers must be no more than 10 pages, in two-column, single line spacing, format, and written using the conference template provided here: <https://www.ieee.org/conferences/publishing/templates.html>

## Deadline for submissions of papers: 15 July 2025

Manuscripts submitted prior to this date will be eligible for consideration for publication in the Special Issue.

**Target date for publication in JOE:** 1 September 2026.

## Additional information:

We aim to have all final decisions by 7<sup>th</sup> July 2026. Upon acceptance by the Editor-in-Chief, individual papers will be posted on IEEE Xplore, thus becoming downloadable and citable prior to publication of the entire collection of "AUV 2026" papers in a regular, quarterly issue of the Journal. For the accepted paper to be included in the Special Issue, an author must register to present the paper as part of the AUV2026 symposium programme, held 1-3 September, Southampton UK. If author registration is not received, or if the paper is not presented at the symposium, the paper will be withdrawn from the Special Issue and published in the next regular quarterly JOE issue. We will ensure all Special Issue papers are accessible to those without institutional

access as green open access papers. Authors may choose to make their contributions gold open access following the standard fees and process of the journal.

The Journal Special Issue review process will be independent of the symposium review process. However, where a paper is found to be unsuitable for publication in the Journal special issue but still of potential interest for presentation at the symposium, authors will be notified with sufficient time to submit their work to the symposium, where it will be independently considered under the review process of the symposium technical programme committee.

The Journal encourages authors to support JOE efforts to publish reproducible results through sharing of code and data. This way, other researchers can build upon your work and your contributions will have higher impact in our community, increasing the value of your paper and potentially increasing citation rate. For additional information, please see the editorial at <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8410389>