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**SAGE LEADING ROBOTICS JOURNAL LAUNCHES
FIRST EVER DATA PAPERS, REVAMPS MULTIMEDIA SERVICES**

Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, Singapore and Washington DC (May 12, 2009)—*The International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR)* is launching a new genre of research paper today at the 2009 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation in Japan (ICRA2009). ***IJRR* data papers**, never before tried in the robotics community, will facilitate and encourage the release of high-quality, peer reviewed datasets to the robotics community.

IJRR, published by SAGE, is the oldest scholarly publication on robotics research, and remains a highly read, ranked and respected journal in the worldwide robotics community. The introduction of data papers will enable authors to share original experimental data and provide the means to overcome a significant barrier to entry in robotics which currently slows down development in the field.

“Data papers build on the success of including archival multimedia content alongside papers, another *IJRR* innovation that was introduced in July 2001,” said Paul Newman, Co-Multimedia Editor, *IJRR* “The goal in creating data papers is to facilitate and encourage the release of high quality, peer-reviewed data sets to the robotics community.”

Data papers will be fully peer reviewed, and the papers will appear in the print version of the journal, ensuring that they can be cited in the same way as research papers. Ultimately, *IJRR* will provide an archival service to authors, hosting all datasets and their supporting websites, providing extensive value over time to the robotics research community.

In addition to the new data papers, SAGE will launch a revamped multimedia site for *IJRR*. The first robotics journal to host multimedia along with their articles in 2001, the updated site has an improved look, feel and ease of access for all supplementary data, which remains free to authors, and accessible to all. Each extension is peer-reviewed to ensure only the highest quality and most relevant material is accepted into *IJRR*.

“Our hope is that with the introduction of the data papers and improvements to the multimedia extensions we will continue to help authors to publish and gain credit for their valuable data,” added Dr Newman.

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As a leading journal in its field for more than twenty five years, ***The International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR)*** was the first scholarly publication on robotics research and published some of the foundational papers in the research area. Today, it continues to supply roboticists and students in robotics and related fields—artificial intelligence, applied mathematics, computer science, electrical and mechanical engineering— with timely, multidisciplinary material on topics from sensors and sensory interpretations to kinematics in motion planning. <http://ijr.sagepub.com/>

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