



Formal Methods Europe

A Guide to FME Sponsorship

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Introduction

Formal Methods Europe (FME) is a society for promoting and supporting the use of formal methods for computer systems development. The organisation is not allied to any larger body and its members come from different industrial, academic and government bodies. Its activities are by no means restricted to Europe. The prestigious “FM” symposia are organised through FME.

Aside from the FM Symposia, FME provides financial and other forms of support, for activities that further the society’s aims. Examples of such support are travel costs of invited speakers and Ph.D. student bursaries.

Making a Proposal

Proposals for financial support are considered by FME’s governing board. The process is informal. An application can be made by email to board@fmeurope.org and should contain the following:

1. A description of the purpose for which sponsorship is requested. FME likes to sponsor particular activities, participants or speakers to which its name can be attached. Non-specific support for an event is generally not granted. Examples:
 - travel funding for a distinguished keynote speaker, advertised as "The FME Lecture" or something like that
 - bursaries for selected participants in workshops, e.g. students from countries with infant formal methods communities
 - an exhibition of tools
 - special projects resulting in e.g. a product or tool related to formal methods.
2. The amount requested. As a guide, we usually provide about €500 for a keynote speaker on the same continent, and about €750 for a keynote speaker travelling intercontinental. Larger amounts are considered for special activities. It is advisable to break any large amount requested into separate smaller amounts, allocated to particular activities. This allows partial sponsorship if the full request can not be met.
3. A full budget, including all sources of sponsorship and expected participant numbers.
4. The Call for Papers, OC and PC Chairs, and PC members if the proposal relates to a conference or workshop.
5. An indication of whether this is a one-shot affair or whether it may be a first in a series.
6. How FME's objectives will be furthered by the activity. The objectives of the association as listed under Article 2 of the statutes (appended to this document).

7. Full contact details, including the responsible person and details of any bank accounts to which funds should be transferred if the proposal is accepted .
8. + The name of the account holder,
9. + The address of the account holder,
10. + The name of the bank,
11. + The name of the agency,
12. + The address of the agency,
13. + The account number,
14. + The BIC code of the bank,
15. + The IBAN of the bank.

Considering the proposal

Proposals are considered twice a year: on April 30 and October 31. The sponsorship budget is limited. When ranking proposals, the FME board will consider how well they further FME's objectives. Priority will also be given to activities which have not already been sponsored recently by FME.

Important Notes

Only the FME Board is authorised to spend FME's money and no-one except the members of the board can give any undertaking on behalf of FME.

The Board may refer a request for sponsorship to others for an opinion. The board will usually get back to a proposer with any questions or points requiring clarification before a decision is made. The board may not be able to offer the full amount requested.

FME's Board is accountable to its members through an auditing process. As a result, the following conditions apply to sponsored events:

- FME will only refund *after* the event has taken place,
- FME will only refund *after* it has received some lightweight proof that the event has taken place and that the sponsorship has been acknowledged, e.g. that the FME branding was made visible on the program
- FME will need (photocopies) of tickets and receipts,
- FME can only refund in Euros.

Enquiries

Please contact any member of the FME Board (board@fmeurope.org).

Appendix

Article 2 of the FME Statutes gives the society's objectives:

"1. The object of the association shall be:

- to stimulate the use of formal methods by European industry.*
- to promote international co-operation among researchers and users of formal methods, with the object: to exchange ideas, to identify common interests and to make links between research and areas of application.*

2. It tries to achieve this object by:

co-ordinating, initiating and supporting conferences, workshops and training courses in the field of formal methods;

- giving security for the benefit of third parties;*
- disseminating information about experiences, tools, projects, standards, research, publications and conferences via newsletters, books, publications in the press, publications via the worldwide computer network (WEB) and a programme of meetings;*
- co-operating with all appropriate (government) institutions working in the field of formal methods, including the European commission;*
- and furthermore by all other legal means.*

3. The association defines a formal method as "a technology for software engineering that uses a mathematical notation and that has a solid mathematical foundation". The association will interpret this broadly with the intention to include all methods by which computer systems (hardware and software) can be developed with precision and strictness.

4. The membership of the association shall be open to present and future users of formal methods and to other interested persons and legal persons. The members will be requested to give brief particulars of their involvement with formal methods (if present) so that the association may assess the level of knowledge and use of formal methods.

The full statutes can be found in Dutch and English at www.fmeurope.org.