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Author Guidelines

The Strategic Management Journal seeks to publish the highest quality research with questions, evidence, and conclusions that are relevant to strategic management and engaging to strategic management scholars. We receive manuscripts with a diverse mix of topics, framings, and methods, and our acceptances reflect this diversity.

More specifically, the Strategic Management Journal seeks to publish papers that ask and help answer important and interesting questions in strategic management, develop and/or test theory, replicate prior studies, explore interesting phenomena, review and synthesize existing research, and evaluate the many methodologies used in our field. SMJ also publishes studies that demonstrate a lack of statistical support in a particular sample for specific hypotheses or research propositions. We welcome a diverse range of researcher methods and are open to papers that rely on statistical inference, qualitative data, verbal theory, computational models, and mathematical models.

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General notes

Submitted manuscripts should not have been previously published and should not be submitted for publication elsewhere while they are under consideration by SMJ.

To be sure that manuscripts move through the review process smoothly and quickly, we ask authors to observe basic formatting and style requirements when submitting manuscripts:

Element	Description
Font	12-point readable font (preferably Times New Roman)
Line spacing	Double-spaced body text, single-spaced references
Margins	One inch (2.5 cm)
Page size	Letter (8.5 x 11) inches
Page numbers	Yes
Required layout (main document)	Abstract, body text, references, appendices, tables, and figures
Journal style	APA

Submissions that do not follow SMJ guidelines may have to be returned for revision and resubmission in order to ensure the timely flow of manuscripts through the editorial process. For more information, please review the SMJ style guidelines at the bottom of this webpage.

We suggest that you circulate your manuscript among colleagues before submitting it to SMJ and make revisions based on their thoughtful suggestions. **The reviewers should *not* be your first readers.**

Initial manuscript submission

All manuscripts considered for submission must be sent to SMJ's online submission site, **http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/SMJ**. In case of questions, please contact:

SMJ Editorial Office
SMJ@strategicmanagement.net

SMJ is published by Wiley in partnership with the Strategic Management Society. Information about the journal is located on **Wiley Online** and the Society's **website**.

For additional tools, visit **Author Resources**, an enhanced suite of online tools for Wiley InterScience journal authors, featuring Article Tracking, Email Publication Alerts, and Customized Research Tools.

Article types

Article type	Description	Page limit
Research article	A detailed study that presents original research.	40
Short research article	A research study that is shorter in length than a typical research article.	20
Commentary	A short article that draws attention to or presents criticism of a previously published work.	20
Prospectives	A short scholarly analysis of issues relevant to future research in strategic management.	40
Special Issue article	A study that presents original research that fits with a theme of an SMJ special issue. To view current special issue calls for papers, please click **here**.	40
Editorial	An article by the SMJ co-editors that express the views of the editors, often regarding journal policies, scholarly research in strategic management, or an article published in the same issue.	40

| Introduction | An introduction to an issue, usually authored by SMJ Co-editors or special issue guest editors. | 40 |

Editorial process and policies

SMJ does not pre-screen submissions. To evaluate your paper, it must be submitted online **here**.

Once a paper is submitted, the editorial process is generally as follows:

- Each SMJ paper is assigned to a Co-editor. He/she does an initial review of the paper and decides whether to assign an Associate Editor.
- The Co-editor or Associate Editor determines if the paper will go through the double-blind peer review process.
- If the manuscript passes the initial review, the Associate Editor selects the reviewers based on the scholarly expertise and availability of potential reviewers.

SMJ has a double-blind review process, which means the reviewers are not aware of the authors' identities and vice versa. Only the assigned Co-editor, Associate Editor, authors, and the SMJ editorial office staff view the reviews.

The SMJ Co-editors assign submitted manuscripts to Associate Editors based on the expertise of editors and the need to balance the workload among the editors. **In the cover letter accompanying a submission, authors may request specific Associate Editors or reviewers with whom the authors have no conflict of interest.** The Co-editors will make a good faith effort to honor requests but cannot guarantee that requests can be met due to the need to balance editorial and reviewer workload, as well as editorial discretion regarding the appropriate match of editorial and reviewer expertise to the submission.

Ethical policies

The Strategic Management Journal (SMJ) holds to the "Guidelines for Professional Conduct" developed by the Society, which can be downloaded **here**.

*See in particular, Point 10, "**EDITORIAL AND REVIEW PROCESS**."*

The following statement by the Co-editors of the SMJ reinforces the SMS guidelines:

The Strategic Management Journal strives to uphold the highest ethical standards in academic publishing.

- **Reviews:** Our Co-editors, Associate Editors, and editorial board members seek to provide timely, open-minded, and constructive feedback to authors of submitted manuscripts.
- **Conflict of interest:** Co-editors, Associate Editors, and editorial board members will not knowingly handle manuscripts that involve a conflict of interest (including in relation to any company and/or commercial product mentioned in an article).
- **Plagiarism:** SMJ will not knowingly publish plagiarized research, including that involving self-plagiarism. SMJ seeks to avoid self-plagiarism by asking authors of submitted manuscripts to cite all of their prior relevant research and disclose any overlap in data with their prior work. See the section below for more information about SMJ's use of plagiarism detection software.
- **Data use:** SMJ welcomes continuing development of new research from a database, but any new work must complement other research that uses the data.
- **Unique submission:** Authors may not submit a manuscript for consideration by SMJ that is under review at another journal.

More generally, SMJ requires that authors act ethically, including by appropriately citing prior research and accurately reporting data sources, procedures, and results.

Plagiarism

For every submission, SMJ uses CrossCheck's iThenticate, a plagiarism detection software, to detect and quantify any duplicated text and possible plagiarism. To find out more about CrossCheck, please visit **http://www.crossref.org/crosscheck.html**.

Guidelines regarding empirical research in SMJ

Reporting results of statistical analyses

SMJ no longer accepts papers for publication that report or refer to cutoff levels of statistical significance (p-values). In statistical studies, authors should report either standard errors or exact p-values (without asterisks) or both and should interpret these values appropriately in the text. Rather than referring to specific cutoff points, the discussion could report confidence intervals, explain the standard errors and/or the probability of observing the results in the particular sample, and assess the implications for the research questions or hypotheses tested.

For papers accepted for publication, SMJ requires that authors explicitly discuss and interpret effect sizes of relevant estimated coefficients.

The SMJ editorial on "**Creating Repeatable Cumulative Knowledge in Strategic Management**" provides a more detailed explanation of these policies.

Replication studies and studies that report "non-results"

SMJ publishes and welcomes submissions of replication studies. SMJ's goal in publishing replications is to provide additional evidence that helps build a cumulative body of knowledge in strategic management, not to overturn prior results. SMJ is interested in replications that accord with prior findings as well as those that do not.

For more information, please read the following editorials: **https://doi.org/10.1002/SMJ.2581** and **https://doi.org/10.1002/SMJ.2477**.

Replication Reviewer Guidelines, which explain how SMJ evaluates replication studies, are available **here**.

SMJ publishes and welcomes submissions of studies with non-results. These types of studies demonstrate a lack of statistical support in a particular sample for specific hypotheses or research propositions. Such hypotheses or propositions should be straightforward and logical. Studies should be conducted rigorously and assess the robustness of the non-results, such as robustness to alternative measurement, statistical specifications, and estimation methodologies.

Articles on datasets

SMJ is now open to publishing peer-reviewed articles on datasets. For dataset articles, SMJ is interested in datasets that are likely to attract significant interest from researchers, who can then exploit the data in a substantially broader fashion than was possible prior to publication.

For more information, please read the following editorials: **https://doi.org/10.1002/SMJ.2690** and **https://doi.org/10.1002/SMJ.3000**.

Causal inference

SMJ strongly supports research that seeks to address interesting and important questions in strategic management that involve complicated causal processes. SMJ recognizes that statistical analyses relevant to these questions may raise the issue of endogeneity. If relevant, authors should acknowledge this issue in submitted manuscripts and make a good faith effort to address it. In some cases, causal inference may be impossible, but statistical correlations, especially if used to rule out some alternative hypotheses or mechanisms, may still be of interest. The SMJ editorial on "**Quantitative Empirical Analysis in Strategic Management**" provides a more detailed explanation.

Data snooping and p-hacking

SMJ strongly disapproves of data snooping and p-hacking practices in empirical research. Authors of submitted papers should not search databases for statistically significant coefficients with the intention of subsequently formulating hypotheses that fit the significant coefficients. Authors also should not adapt experimental designs with the primary intention of producing statistically significant results. In addition, authors of submitted papers should address the material significance (magnitude) of the results, in addition to statistical significance.

Open data, open access, and copyright

Open data initiative

Recognizing the importance of research transparency and data sharing to cumulative research, SMJ encourages authors to share the data supporting the results in their study by archiving them in an appropriate public repository. In partnership with the non-profit Center for Open Science (COS), SMJ will award qualifying authors an Open Practice badge recognizing their contributions to the open science movement.

The Open Data badge recognizes researchers who make their data publicly available, providing sufficient description of the data to allow researchers to reproduce research findings of published research studies. Qualifying public, open-access repositories are committed to preserving data and keeping them publicly accessible via the web into perpetuity. SMJ is making the **FIVES Project data repository** available to either store the data and documentation or provide links on the FIVES website to the data and documentation on other open access websites. Other example repositories include the Open Science Framework (OSF), the various Dataverse networks, and others listed at the **Registry of Research Data Repositories**. Personal websites and most departmental websites do not qualify as repositories.

There are, of course, circumstances in which it is not possible or advisable to share data publicly. For example, there are cases in which sharing participant data could violate confidentiality, or the data were acquired under non-disclosure agreements, or the data were acquired from private vendors or other entities that prohibit sharing their data. In these cases, the authors may provide an explanation of such circumstances in the Alternative Note section of the disclosure form. The information the authors provide will be included in the article's Open Practices note.

Authors have an opportunity at the time of manuscript submission and again at the time of acceptance to inform themselves of this initiative and to determine whether they wish to participate. Applying and qualifying for the Open Data badge is not a requirement for publishing with SMJ, but this badge is further incentive for authors to participate in the open science movement and, thus, to increase the visibility and transparency of their research. Participating authors will be asked to complete a disclosure form after their manuscript is accepted; the badge cannot be awarded without the completed disclosure form.

More information on badges to acknowledge open practices can be found at the OSF Wiki **here**.

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Early View

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Costs to authors

There is no fee for submitting manuscripts to SMJ. The only fees associated with publishing an accepted article are optional.

These optional costs include:

- **Color figures in print:** The first color figure is $500, and subsequent color figures are $100 apiece. Color figures appear in the digital version for free.
- **Extra print issues:** The Strategic Management Society is happy to offer limited access to our SMJ print journal inventory to SMS members only. We invite SMS members to request available copies free of charge as a thank you to our members. We ask that members pay for the costs of shipping and handling of the journals, and we also provide an opportunity for an optional donation to our Society. If you are looking for an issue with a specific author or submission, you can log in to Wiley's online database to perform a search (current SMS membership is required for online access). Please send a message to sms@strategicmanagement.net with the issue information, and we will confirm if the issue is available.

SMJ Style Guidelines

We strongly suggest that you limit the paper size to **40 pages**, which includes figures and tables. References should be single spaced to conserve manuscript space. The language of the journal is American English. Please be sure that your paper is double spaced and uses a 12-point readable font and one-inch margins on all sides. Your text must be left justified. **Short research articles should not be more than 20 pages in length**, including title page, abstract, text, figures, tables, and references.

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This should be a **separate** file from the main document. Please list the full names, titles, email addresses, and affiliations (with complete addresses) of all authors on the title page. A running head (a short title of up to 60 characters) of your choice should appear on the title page as well. For indexing purposes, kindly include five (5) keywords that describe your paper.

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Please double-space the body text (font size 12) and use one-inch margins. Do **not** include any author names, author affiliations, or acknowledgements in the main document. Please ensure that there are no edits (such as Track Changes and comment bubbles) showing in the text.

Abstract

Please supply a one-paragraph abstract of up to 125 words. This is a precise summary of your entire paper, not just your conclusions, and it must be able to stand alone, separate from the rest of the paper. Please do not include citations to other works in the abstract.

Acknowledgements

The names of any sponsors of your research, including grant numbers and/or people you would like to thank, may be included in an acknowledgements section. When submitting a paper, acknowledgements should be included **ONLY** on the title page and not in the text of the paper. If your paper is accepted, the acknowledgements will move to the main paper, at the end of the text and right before the references.

Figures and tables

Please do not incorporate your figures and/or tables into the text of your article. Please include an instruction such as "INSERT TABLE 1 HERE" where appropriate. Figures and tables should appear at the **end** of the manuscript, after the references section. Here are some additional guidelines regarding figures and tables:

- It is best if your tables are editable (not images).
- All tables and figures should be numbered and include legends.
- Please use consistent lettering and sizing in original artwork.
- Each table and figure must have placement instructions within the body text to indicate where these items should go (e.g., "Insert Table 1 Here").
- Figure files:
  - Should be in high resolution (at least 300dpi for printing purposes), and the following formats are preferred: .tiff and .png
  - Will appear in color online (if submitted in color) but will appear in black and white in print.

File formats

At the submission stage, SMS can accept files in Word and PDF.

- Before you submit your materials, you will be given the chance to review your manuscript as a PDF. Please review the PDF before submitting. If any part of the paper does not convert properly, please work on the formatting before submitting.
- If the paper is not readable after the system converts it to PDF, we will send it back to you for formatting revisions.

Once your paper is accepted, we will request that files be provided in Word format (.doc, .docx, .rtf).

- Tables must be included in an editable format, not as pictures.
- We can also accept LaTex files at this point. If you choose to upload LaTex files, please ensure there is also a PDF that shows us the placement of the various pieces.
- If you have an appendix intended to be online-only, it may be submitted in any format. Online appendix material will not be copy edited or revised, so please ensure it appears exactly as you would like.

Citations and references

SMJ uses APA style. Use the author-date method of in-text citation. The author's last name and the year of publication for the source should appear in the text; for example (Jones, 1998). If a direct quote is included, the page number should appear as well; for example (Jones, 1998, p. 182).

When a cited work has six or more authors, the form (main author et al., year) is to be used. If there are five or fewer authors, all names should be included at the first text citation and et al. used thereafter. When reference is made to more than one work by the same author(s) published in the same year, identify each citation in the text in the following manner: (Collins, 2005a, 2005b).
If necessary, cite unpublished or personal work in the text, but please do not include it in the reference list. When your parenthetical citation includes two or more works, order them alphabetically, separated by a semi-colon (Smith, 2002; Thompson, 1983).

All references must have a corresponding citation in the text and vice versa.

Reference style

A complete list of sources should appear in alphabetical order in the reference list at the end of the paper.

For examples of the correct referencing style, please download the full <u>author guidelines document</u> and refer to page 13.

Appendices and supplementary material

Appendices are placed after the references. If there is only one Appendix, no number is needed after it (i.e., Appendix 1). If you have an appendix that should be published **online only**, please call it the "online appendix" throughout the article. It should be a file separate from the main article.

APA guidelines

SMJ generally follows APA style. **For a brief summary of common style issues, please download the full <u>author guidelines document</u> and refer to page 15.**

Editorial assistance to non-native English speakers

Every accepted SMJ article goes through copy editing, but this level of copy editing is very light. If your paper is in need of additional editing (improving the writing, grammar, punctuation, formatting, etc.), you may want to enlist the services of a professional copy editor. If you do not have access to a copy editor, you may wish to contact **Wiley's English Language Editing Services**. Please verify pricing upfront, as it is not provided free of charge.