CMS authorship

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The CMS working group on Authorship

Lorenzo Foa, Vladimir Gavrilov, Dan Green, Bernard Ille, Michel della Negra, Martti Pimia (secr), Sijin Qian, Paris Sphicas, Jim Virdee.

This group of people was mandated to draft in a simple and transparent way the policy of CMS on who signs the general papers of physics after the start-up of data taking.

Authorship of CMS physics papers

1. The authors of CMS physics papers are the physicists, engineers and students who are affiliated to an institute with the CMS member status and who spend a significant fraction of their working time for CMS. The individual authorship must be confirmed by the CMS team leader of the Institution. In principle everyone who has contributed to the experiment can sign physics papers of CMS, including for example theorists who have made important contributions. Individual physicists are allowed not to sign any particular paper.

2. Physicists of CMS who want to publish a paper alone or with other experimental or theoretical physicists not in CMS, by their own, can do it but using exclusively published data. They are not allowed to use raw data, CMS software or CMS Monte Carlo programmes.

3. The number of the PhD physicist authors of CMS in each Institution is fixed year by year according to the participation of this Institution to the financial and technical load to run CMS. Students and engineers can be authors without being counted in this number. Financial contributions must cover the M&O share, and the technical contributions shall cover the technical work, shifts etc. as accounted by the corresponding CMS Level-2 managers. The Team Leader of each Institution will share the technical load among the members of the team.

4. The Team Leader of each Institution will send the list of authors to the Authorship Committee each year, with possible amendments paper by paper. If the Authorship Committee finds unbalanced situations, the Chairperson should discuss with the corresponding Team Leader. The Chairperson will report to the Spokesperson.

5. The authorship list is alphabetical the same way as in the CMS TDRs: by country name (in English), by town name, by institute name, by author name, by author first name.

6. As the list of authorship can be different in every publication, CMS will keep track of authors for every common CMS publication.

7. For newcomers into the Collaboration, at least one-year contribution to CMS is required before signing CMS physics papers.
8. After leaving the collaboration, one can continue signing CMS papers for a certain time, usually for one year. When retiring, or leaving HEP, the time can be longer, proportional to the person’s contribution to CMS, generally one year of signing time for each two years of contribution time.

9. An Authorship Committee of five members, one of them the Chair, nominated by the Collaboration Board for a three-year period of office, will harmonize, monitor and keep under control the author list. The practical application of these guidelines may generate a series of requests for exceptions. The Authorship Committee will deal with these requests. The Chairperson will report to the Spokesperson, who, together with the Collaboration Board Chair, will resolve any disputes.