



Publishing RILEM TC Outputs as a "Topical Collection"

For RILEM TC Reports or Recommendations, a Topical Collection offers a way to group outputs from a Technical Committee (TC) in one place. If desired, the collection can include a preface introducing the themes of the papers. These collections can also be designed as an electronic version of the STAR books, though this is not a requirement.

If you are interested in creating a Topical Collection, please follow the guidance below:

Criteria for a Topical Collection

- A Topical Collection is suitable when a TC intends to submit >4 articles within a short timeframe (2–3 years).
- A Springer proposal <u>form</u> must be completed and submitted before any manuscript submission. This form is a standard requirement for all Topical Collections in *Materials and Structures*, mandated by Clarivate. Please send the completed form to <u>materstruct@rilem.org</u> before submitting any manuscripts.

Required information and steps to submit a Topical Collection

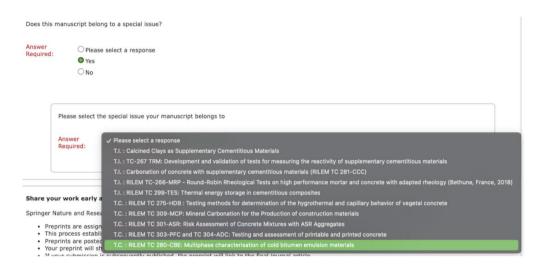
- Before a Topical Collection can be opened, it must be reviewed and approved by all members of the TC. The idea must be disseminated among all TC members and the comments may be addressed via e-mail or during the official TC meetings. The Topical Collection is considered approved if no reservations are addressed by the TC members to the Chair. This must be proven by means of minutes or electronic minutes.
- Notify the TAC Chair, the Cluster Convener, the TAC Secretary and materstruct@rilem.org by sending the approval by members and the follwing information:
 - Proposed title: The title of the Topical Collection must follow the form "RILEM TC 123-XXX: Title of the topical collection" and be approved by the Cluster Convener
 - Guest Editor details: Name, email, short biography, and a (optional) picture (the Guest Editor should be the Cluster Convener)
 - Expected opening and closure dates
 - List of potential contributors (these shoud be the TC members)
 - A short description of the collection (approximately 100 words)
 - 3 to 5 relevant keywords
 - Number and tentative titles of expected manuscripts

Once the collection has been established, the journal will notify the TC chair so that manuscripts can be submitted (please refer to TAC-N109 for the guidelines).

Important notes

• To avoid potential conflict of interest, (e.g., if the Cluster Convener is also a member of the TC, the Convener of another Cluster or the TAC Chair can serve as Guest Editor.

- Once a Topical Collection is set up, no modifications can be made. This includes changes to the title, Guest Editor, or any other details. Please ensure all information is accurate before submission.
- During manuscript submission, in the Additional Information section of the system, select that the manuscript belongs to a Special Issue and choose the appropriate TC from the dropdown menu (as shown in the screenshot below).



- Manuscripts that have entered the production stage (after peer review and editorial decisions) cannot be added to a Topical Collection. To ensure inclusion, please inform us as early as possible if a manuscript is intended for a Topical Collection.
- An editorial can be submitted to the collection. It should be submitted last. There should be no references and each and every paper that is part of the collections should not be mentioned as this is seen as self-citations by Clarivate. The editorial should not be submitted to editorial manager but sent to materstruct@rilem.org.



1 Guest Editor for each Topical Collection