

How Amnet Supported a Leading Publisher of Computer Science Journals in Addressing Ethical Issues and Enhancing Research Integrity

Client

A leading publisher of computer science journals

Challenges

The client identified the formation of a peer review ring, accompanied by a surge in submissions from a specific region, threatening the credibility of the journal. The client also noticed manipulated images that were impacting the publisher's image.

Objectives

Enhancing integrity in the review process of the journal to uphold the journal's reputation in the face of unethical practices.

Solution

- 1) Amnet deployed subject matter experts to pick up any conflict of interest at the beginning of the submission stage itself, before assigning the manuscripts to the editors/reviewers.
- 2) To overcome the surge in submissions from a specific author, we implemented specific measures, like restricting the author to submitting a maximum of seven articles within a defined timescale. This ensured that the author would be unable to submit more than seven articles until at least one of them was accepted.
- 3) Amnet used a combination of tools and manual checks to identify image manipulation. The images were run through these tools, which generated a report that was further reviewed by image-checking specialists to identify any manipulation and then report the same to the publisher.

Benefits

Aging of the manuscripts, from submission to acceptance, improved, as rejections due to COI were avoided, or manipulations in any form were picked up well in advance.

Stringent checkpoints led to enriched and quality content/images getting published.

Key Accomplishments



Improvement in the quality of submissions

About Amnet

With 25 years of experience, Amnet offers end-to-end traditional and digital publishing solutions including peer-review management, editorial, project management, production, accessibility, and technology for university presses and other publishers in all sectors and around the globe.

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