



Review panel 2021

Helen Huang

Shazia Sadiq

Weifa Liang

Mark Billingham

Geoff Webb

John Grundy

Serge Gaspers

Lin Padgham (chaired the process)

This conference was flagged as requiring review and was asked to make a submission which they did. It publishes about 80 papers with an acceptance rate in the 20s. The PC median is 12, with 57 of 207 of the PC being established researchers. This is somewhat weak for an A conference. 15 of the established researchers published there the last 5 years, but only 4 of these in more than 1 year. Engagement from this group is considered quite weak for an A conference. This group also did not show strong publishing in A* venues. Centile citation data showed that only 1.1% of papers are at the 25th centile for A/A* papers, with 8.8% at the 50th centile. The h-index centiles are also well below average for A/A*. The committee acknowledged that it has (or has had) a specialist focus on trust, but also noted that it accepts many more general security papers as well. Also the existing top security conferences do include papers on trust, even if that is not a major focus. The committee determined that, taking account of all the above, TRUSTCOM should be reranked as B.

A reconsideration request was received but it did not really contain any additional data to modify the decision. The submitter has misunderstood the fact that the PC list was not intended to include Chairs, whose details are considered separately. Therefore the recalculated numbers were not relevant and did not change the view that this conference is not at rank A compared with other A ranked conferences.