

International Ergonomics Association

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## **IEA Newsletter from the IEA President** No. 24 June 2008

Dear Council Members.

I am delighted to provide our June 2008 Newsletter to members of the IEA Federated Societies and Technical Committees (TC).

#### Welcome to new EC Member

I am pleased to announce that Prof Ralph Bruder from Germany has accepted an invitation to join the IEA Executive Committee as the Chair of the EQUID Standing Committee. Ralph has an extensive experience in design process evaluation and has been assisting with the EQUID process over the last year since the previous Chair, Lina Bonapace from Italy was unable to continue in the role. We welcome Ralph and look forward to his leadership as the EQUID Committee completes the initial phase of releasing the design process documentation and considers the range of potential implementation options.

#### 2. New IEA Technical Committees

I am pleased to report that the IEA Executive Committee has approved the formation of one new Technical Committee this month, namely:

## 2.1. Human Simulation and Virtual Environment (HSVE).

This TC is under the chair of Prof Thomas Alexander in Germany and Prof Nico Delleman from The Netherlands. Contact Thomas at alexander@fgan.de and Nico at delleman1@zonnet.nl. Details of the TC scope and action plan may be found on the IEA website. This brings the number of Technical Committees to 25.

We now have a further two that should be ready to launch next month. They relate to Human Factors and Sustainable Development, HFSD (Chair: Klaus Zink, Germany) and another in Mining (Chair: Schu Schutte, South Africa).

The Mining TC brings together a wide range of ergonomics researchers from Latin America, Australia and South Africa involved in the underground, open cut and under sea mining industry sectors.

The HFSD TC suggests that sustainability-oriented ergonomics/human factors should be based on a broad societal discourse about the present and future development of "working society", about opportunities and risks resulting out of this development and about the contribution of ergonomics/human factors for an economic, social and environmental process of innovation in less developed countries as well as in industrialized ones. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Equal integration of economic, social and environmental aspects and goals into ergonomic analysis and design,
- Research on economic, social and environmental aspects of work on a macro-level,
- Conceptualisation and realisation of a stakeholder approach in ergonomic research and
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Human Factors in Corporate Social Responsibility approaches.

During my visit to Columbia the suggestion of an IEA Technical Committee on Ergonomics in Indigenous Communities was raised. This, together with potential TCs such as Cultural Ergonomics, Service Ergonomics and HF Practice will be explored in the forthcoming IEA Council meeting under the STP workshop. Please email Halimahtun Khalid, halimahtun@damai-sciences.com if you are interested to be a part of these TCs.

### 3. IEA K.U. Smith Student Award

The IEA K.U. Smith Student Award honors two deserving students responsible for applications of or contributions to ergonomics/human factors (E/HF) worthy of recognition. The next awards will be presented during the IEA 2009 XVIIth Triennial Congress, scheduled to convene August 9-14, 2009, in Beijing, China.

The Award winners each will receive a cash award of US \$3,000. Depending upon need, an additional stipend for travel to the Congress also may be awarded to the winner(s).

Any student enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution (college, university, technical, or vocational school) worldwide is eligible to apply for the award. All areas of E/HF are eligible for consideration. Examples of applicable projects include an applied E/HF project, a human performance study or analysis, a design project or product, a research project undertaken in the laboratory or field, or a theoretical/conceptual contribution to E/HF.

A student wishing to apply for the award should submit the following documents via email to the IEA Student Award Committee (see contact information below):

- The abstract of a paper that the student has authored, that documents an application of or contribution to E/HF on (1) the part of the student.
- A resume for the student, with the student's name, full address, e-mail and phone numbers, institution enrolled in, (2) experience, list of publications, and a summary of accomplishments and/or contributions related to the field of E/HF. The resume should be limited to 4 pages in length.
- A letter from the student's academic advisor on institutional letterhead certifying the following: (1) that the paper (3)described in the abstract was written by the student applicant; (2) that the student applicant was primarily responsible for the work described in the paper referenced by the abstract, in the case of papers with multiple authors; (3) that the student applicant was enrolled in the academic program at the time that work described in the abstract was carried out; (4) when the work described in the abstract was carried out; (5) that the work described in the abstract was completed after June, 2008; and (6) that the abstract is being submitted for the IEA K.U. Smith Student Award.

Two key provisions pertaining to this award are as follows:

- The research or project described in the paper referenced by the submitted abstract was completed after June, 2008.
- The student applicant was primarily responsible for carrying out the work described in the abstract, in the case of (2) multiple authors for the paper referenced by the abstract.

The IEA Student Award Committee will select the two awardees using a two-stage screening procedure:

- Review of abstracts, resumes, and advisor certifications; and (1)
- (2) Review of full papers.

Student applicants who have successfully passed the first screening stage will be invited by the IEA Student Award Committee to submit full papers for final selection. Two selection criteria will be used to select the two awardees:

- Quality of contribution to E/HF, as documented in the full paper; and (1)
- Other accomplishments in and/or contributions to E/HF, as described in the resume. (2)
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Deadlines for the award process are as follows:

Abstracts, resumes and advisor letters must be received by the IEA Student Award Committee. Only Oct. 6, 2008:

email submissions will be accepted.

Nov. 10, 2008: Applicants eligible for submitting full papers will be notified by this date.

Jan. 12, 2009: Full papers from eligible applicants must be received by the IEA Student Award Committee by this

date. Only email submissions will be accepted.

Feb. 9, 2009: Applicants informed of results of award evaluation by this date.

April 1, 2009: Full paper by winners due to IEA 2009 Congress Program Committee by this date (visit

> http://www.iea2009.org for details). (NOTE: The IEA 2009 Congress Program Committee will reserve a slot for the award winners to present their papers. The winners do NOT have to meet the Nov. 15, 2008 deadline for submitting paper abstracts. However, the winners must submit their full

papers to the IEA 2009 Congress Program Committee by April 1, 2009.)

Submissions should be sent to the Chair of the IEA Student Award Committee:

Professor Pascale Carayon

Procter & Gamble Bascom Professor in Total Quality Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering Director of the Center for Quality and productivity Improvement University of Wisconsin-Madison

1550 Engineering Drive

3126 Engineering Centers Building Madison, WI 53706-1609

Email: carayon@engr.wisc.edu

# 4. IEA / ICOH / IOHA Triple MOU signed

During June a new Triple MOU was signed between the ICOH and IOHA. This is to reinforce a consistent approach by the peak organizations involved in the Occupational Health and Safety areas to work together for professional representation in global discussion. The MOU is on the IEA website. The accompanying text developed by ICOH President Jorma Rantanen is "The rapid pace of globalization spreads challenges of occupational health and safety throughout the world quickly and effectively. The professional associations as flexible Non-Governmental Organizations can provide sound scientific basis and good practices for identification, assessment and management of the hazards and risks. The complex problems of modern work life call for multi-disciplinary and multi-professional approaches. This is why ICOH welcomes the collaboration with IEA and IOHA. Together we can provide best support for improvement of conditions of work and prevention of hazards. I am also confident that our collaboration will stimulate our scientific and professional minds and enrich the generation of new ideas." A follow up meeting was held with the President of ICOH during the June at the KOSHA conference in Korea. A range of

collaborations between the IEA and ICOH were discussed.

# 5. IEA 2009 Congress Update 5.1 Website information

Please note that the full details for the Congress are now available on the website www.iea2009.org This includes the list of Track Chairs and Co-Chairs who are assisting the Scientific Committee in the program preparation. Each Track Session has developed the Call for Proposals – this was attached to the last IEA Newsletter No.23 and is also on the website. Please register on the IEA website www.iea.cc with your email address and the IEA password "ergohfe". You can then monitor and participate in the Technical Committee discussions online as the programs are developed.

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The Congress Committee will be updating the website in July, so keep checking for updates.

#### 5.2 Submission of Abstract.

Abstracts (500 words) are due 15 November 2008. Please email the Track Co-Chairs to discuss abstracts, proposals, etc. Online submission will open in **August/September 2008**. New calls for proposals are attached with this newsletter.

## **5.3** Innovative program suggestions

It is pleasing to hear a range of ideas to enhance the Scientific program at the Congress. These include sessions where Technical Committees are exploring joint sessions; a program for students to meet together and share their research and issues; interactive sessions with external organizations; meeting of persons involved in Government implementation of ergonomics programs in industry; open sessions of the ISO 159 Committee meeting for interested delegates to directly interface with the ISO team; meet the Editors of the IEA Endorsed Journals; workshops to explore the future directions of the ergonomics domain. We look forward to more suggestions for the program. Feel free to email me or the STP Chair with your ideas.

### **5.4 Congress Promotion**

It is now time to start promoting the Congress through your networks within your country. Can I suggest that you provide a direct link to the Congress website on your own Society website? Can you also seek opportunities to insert details into materials developed for your Society professional development program and other Societies where appropriate? A brochure has been developed for you to download and print for circulation. This is available on the website and was attached to Newsletter No. 23.

### 6. HealthCare Systems and Patient Safety conference

I had the pleasure of participating in the IEA HEPS 2008 conference in Strasbourg, France this month. There were nearly 400 participants from 29 countries in attendance including 100 from Italy. I would like to thank the Organizing Committee led by Sebastiano Bagnara and Riccardo Tartaglia together with the team in Italy, France and Germany for their leadership and commitment to this successful IEA conference.

#### 7. World OHS Summit

I was honoured to represent the IEA as one of 50 Government Ministers and senior officials in Seoul Korea this month at the World OHS Summit. This was hosted by ILO, ISSA and KOSHA. A Declaration from this summit provided a strong commitment to the role of Governments to recognize OHS as an important issue for them to address together with employers and workers. The inclusion of the IEA reinforces the role of ergonomics as a legitimate participant in the illness and injury prevention process. A copy of the "Seoul Declaration" will be posted on our website when it is available.

### 8. IEA contribution to Korean Conference

The IEA has supported the Korean Government KOSHA conference in Seoul during June by hosting a session relating to participatory approaches to address musculoskeletal injuries. The IEA identified presenters from developing and developed countries to contribute to our session. I was pleased to attend the opening Ceremony of the conference and thank Kazutaka Kogi, Japan and Min Chung, Korea for their assistance with the organizing of the IEA session.

We look forward to providing further IEA activity information in the next Newsletter during July 2008.

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Yours sincerely,

**Prof. David C Caple** 

David C Caple

**President – International Ergonomics Association** 

**Attachment – IEA 2009 Calls for Proposals** 

## **Auditory Ergonomics Technical Committee (AETC) Invites Submissions**

By Ellen Haas, AE TC Program Chair, and James Bliss, AE TC Program Vice-Chair

The AE TC, which provides a forum for the international exchange of scientific and technical ergonomics information related to auditory issues, is now accepting submissions for the IEA 2009 Congress in Beijing, China. The AE TC encourages symposia, panels, posters and demonstrations that address aspects of auditory ergonomics. The content could include laboratory, field and case studies, conceptual models, and demonstrations. Relevant topics include the following:

- Auditory warnings and displays
- Automatic speech recognition and voice input devices
- Speech synthesis
- Spatial auditory displays
- Sonification
- Noise
- Hearing protection
- Multimodal displays that contain auditory components
- Any other area that involves audio input or output.

The AE TC is also soliciting reviewers for the proposals in November 2008. If you are an AE TC member and you wish to help with the review, or you have any questions or ideas to discuss, please contact Dr. Ellen Haas at ehaas@arl.army.mil or Dr. James Bliss at JBliss@odu.edu.

#### The Anthropometry TC (ATC) invites Submissions

By Johan Molenbroek, ATC Program Chair

The ATC encourages symposia, panels and demonstrations that address the anthropometric issue in relation to work and daily life. We welcome contributions about non-average target groups like children, female, elderly or handicapped.

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Size problems can be found in almost every aspect of society: spaces or cabins, supports, tools, controls, personal equipment, public transport, etc.

We especially welcome work on standard committees in anthropometry in that the presenter must give the audience unexpected insights, and convince them the benefits of such work for the society.

Selected papers may be retained after review for publication in a special issue of a journal. TCA is also soliciting referees; if you have any questions or ideas, please contact Johan Molenbroek at j.f.m.molenbroek@tudelft.nl

## **Displays and Warnings Track Invites Submissions**

By Dr Catherine Burns, Programme Chair

From April 1 st 2008, the Displays and Warnings (DW) Track is accepting submissions for the IEA August 2009 Congress in Beijing, China. We are calling for proposals for symposia, panels, workshops, field demonstrations and papers that address current or emerging issues in display design, interface design, visualization, warnings, and alarm systems.

The content of these offerings could include case studies, reports of laboratory research, descriptions of field methods, conceptual models, evaluations, and implementation approaches. Demonstrations or examples of displays that have had impact on safety, decision making, situation awareness, and productivity would also be very welcome. In particular, the DW Track is looking for contributions that show how ergonomic methods can be used to develop designs that improve worker, consumer, and public safety, and how design approaches can bridge the gap between ergonomic methods and effective designs of displays and warnings.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the DW Track via me at: c4burns@uwaterloo.ca

#### Service anf HF Practice Track Invites Submissions

By Holger Luczak, Programme Chair

Despite the fact that the service sector plays an important role in contributing to the national economy of most advanced industrialized countries, its representation in ergonomics research and practice is underrated. The term "services" comprises – exemplified as technical services for industrial physical goods production along a product lifecycle invention and customer demand oriented engineering, marketing and provision, production planning & control, enterprise resource management, logistics and warehousing, repair and maintenance, recycling and reuse. So contributions to the track are invited, concerning:

- analysis of service tasks and respective environments by adapted or specialized methods in terms of description, simulation and intervention
- allocation of functions of and in services to units, system components in departments and companies and their consequences in terms of employment modes, labour conditions and design of workplaces
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- life cycle phases of service products in service engineering and practical service design combined with anticipative exploration and evaluation of stressors and strain for service personnel
- quantity modelling of services with consequences for cooperation in service providing, personnel management and personnel measurement, workload and strain symptoms (e.g. burn-out)
- quality modelling of services with impacts on competency and "confidence" aspects in the interrelation of providers and customers, especially in terms of HF of service quality management and "game theory" considerations
- typologies of services especially respecting variables of necessary human inputs and properties (like qualifications and skills) of the service workforce
- role-, functions-, actions-models in services with consequences for evaluation and design of cooperation, coordination, communication (C3-processes) as focuses of service management and teamwork
- special support of services by information technologies, like Workflow Systems, Advanced Planning Systems, CASE-Computer Aided Service Engineering, Teleservice etc. and change management of labour partition by technological
- promotion of "service engineering" as discipline with the objects "service design" as company unit, with a specific human resource management over the service product lifecycle, with a professionalized view on the different phases of service demands analysis, service invention and design, service planning, implementation, service test and control etc. This disciplinary development should especially include "human factors" as essential component of service engineering.
- comparative analysis of "service engineering concepts" like prototyping, reverse engineering, normative phase and cascade modelling, spiral and feedback/feed forward modelling in terms of the HF/ergonomics role in the development process

Email Holger Luczak, h.luczak@fir.rwth-aachen.de if you have proposals for discussion.

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