

HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS SOCIETY

What Is HFES?

The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (formerly the Human Factors Society) is the principal professional association in the United States that is concerned with the study of human characteristics and capabilities and with the application of that knowledge to the design of the products, systems, and environments that people use.

Since its formation in 1957, HFES has promoted the discovery and exchange of human factors and ergonomics knowledge, as well as education and training for students and practitioners. HFES, like similar organizations around the world, is a member of the International Ergonomics Association.

Members Have Diverse Backgrounds

HFES has almost 5000 members located throughout the United States and in 43 other countries. They are employed in industry, universities and colleges, government, consulting, military, public utilities, and other settings. Members have academic specialties in psychology (39%), engineering (22%), human factors/ergonomics (9%), industrial design (2%), medicine (4%), and many other fields.

HFES Publications

All members in good standing, regardless of category, receive four regular publications as a benefit of membership.

Human Factors. This quarterly peer-reviewed journal presents reports of basic and applied research, advances in methods and applications, and reviews of the state of the art. *Human Factors* is an invaluable source of information for those who work in the human factors and ergonomics field and a service to researchers who wish to disseminate their findings.

HFES Bulletin. This monthly newsletter covers news of Society events and committee activities, reviews of meetings and courses, job opportunities, ads for products and services, calls for papers, and issues of concern to human factors/ergonomics researchers and practitioners.

Ergonomics in Design. The Society's quarterly magazine contains articles, case studies, debates, commentary, and book and product reviews. The focus of *Ergonomics in Design* is the application of human factors/ergonomics research to the design, development, test, and maintenance of human-machine systems and environments.

Directory and Yearbook. Each year the Society updates its directory of members. Included are descriptions of the previous year's activities within HFES committees, chapters, and technical groups; alphabetical and geographical member listings; the HFES Code of Ethics; and the Society's Bylaws. Members also receive discounts on other publications.

Standards Development Activities

Members represent the field in the development of national and international ergonomics standards on computer workstation and software design, medical devices, safety, and a number of other areas.

Technical Areas

There are 21 technical interest groups within HFES, each organized to promote information exchange: aerospace systems, aging, cognitive engineering and decision making, communications, computer systems, consumer products, educators' professional, environmental design, forensics professional, industrial ergonomics, Internet, macroergonomics, medical systems and rehabilitation, individual differences in performance, safety, surface transportation, system development, test and evaluation, training, virtual environments, and visual performance.

Technical groups contribute to the HFES annual meeting program, distribute newsletters, and conduct periodic meetings.

Local Chapters

Chapters offer events featuring noted speakers, tours of local facilities, symposia on developments in human factors; and social activities. Local chapter and technical group dues (usually a few dollars a year) are not included in HFES dues.

Technical Meetings

The five-day annual meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society is held each fall and includes an extensive program featuring the latest research discoveries; methods for research, design, and training; panel discussions and debates on important issues in the field and in the practice of human factors; hands-on workshops by technical specialists; tours of technical and research facilities in the host city; and technical group meetings.

More than 100 lecture, panel, debate, symposium, demonstration, and special sessions are offered. Published proceedings are available at the meeting, representing the work of more than 300 member and nonmember contributors.

HFES members receive substantial discounts on meeting registration. The proceedings are included in the registration fee.

Placement Service

The Society offers an opportunity for employers seeking human factors and ergonomics expertise to tap into the tremendous knowledge base and range of experience of HFES members. The HFES Placement Service, an on-line service available from the HFES Web site, is free for candidates.



HFES Resources for Students

The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society provides a number of valuable resources for students:

- ★ "Career Opportunities in Human Factors/Ergonomics" is a free brochure describing the basic educational requirements for working in the field.
- ★ "Preparing for a Career in Human Factors/Ergonomics" is a compilation of articles that offer tips for the graduate about to enter the field.
- ★ The HFES Placement Service, an on-line service available through the HFES Web site (<http://hfes.org>) contains job and candidate databases. There is no charge for candidates. Call HFES at 310/394-1811 or send e-mail to placement@hfes.org.
- ★ Participation in HFES Annual Meetings each fall provides access to up-to-date research and application work and networking opportunities. Students register at reduced fees; students who volunteer 8 hours receive a refund of their registration fee.
- ★ Many HFES publications are geared toward graduate and advanced undergraduate students: *Anthropometric Methods: Designing to Fit the Human Body* describes methods for conducting measurements of the human body for analysis and integration into simulations. *Human Factors Perspectives on Warnings* and *Human Factors Perspectives on Human-Computer Interaction* are collections of some of the best papers from past HFES Annual Meeting proceedings. They make excellent supplementary readings for coursework.
- ★ Full-time students may join HFES at substantially reduced dues: \$30 per calendar year. Membership benefits include free subscriptions to *Human Factors*, *Ergonomics in Design*, and the *HFES Bulletin*.

Contact us for more information:

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