



NewsBriefs

July 2023

Dear IEA Community,

The July edition of the IEA NewsBriefs includes information on the upcoming triennial IEA Conference, scheduled for 2024, an announcement on the passing of Dr. Stover Snook, as well as a call for IEA society members to get involved in the IEA's work with the International Standardization Organization (ISO TC159 - Ergonomics). We have also included details of exciting upcoming webinars from the Future of Work series and the IEA Technical Committee on Musculoskeletal Disorders.

In the Spotlight on IEA Societies feature we travel all the way to Brazil and get to learn about how the Associação Brasileira de Ergonomia (ABERGO) is making meaningful contributions to the development of HFE locally by collaborating with strategic stakeholders to integrate HFE in legislation and graduate programs across Brazil.

If you have any HFE events, developments, and IEA society activities that you would like to be included in upcoming editions of the IEA NewsBriefs please contact sma.ngcamu@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IEA2024 Call for Papers coming soon

Begin preparing your abstracts as the first Call for Papers is expected to be opened in August 2023. The first round of submissions will be due by 31 October 2023 and authors will be notified of the results by the end of November, 2023. A second round will take place afterwards with notification of acceptance in March, 2024. The first round will invite ideas for individual posters and presentations, sessions, workshops and panel discussions. Those who wish to submit an expanded paper for publication will need to submit them by mid April. A full paper submission will not be obligatory. **Watch this space (www.iea2024.com)**

IEA2024 will be held on the beautiful JeJu Island, Korea, which has an international airport reachable from many hubs in Asia. Transport will be

provided from the airport to the International Convention Centre, which offers world class facilities and ample opportunity to meet with colleagues from around the world and enjoy the hospitality of the over 500 members of the Korean Ergonomics Society.

Bereavement announcement: Dr. Stover Snook

The IEA is saddened to announce the passing of another pioneer and stalwart in the HFE discipline, Dr. Stover Snook. Most people recognise Dr. Snook for the seminal work that he completed with his colleagues on manual load handling guidelines and the widely used “Snook and Ciriello Tables” that were developed during his time at the Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety. His contribution to improving worker safety through creating safer working conditions is a living legacy that many around the world will continue to benefit from. His ability to translate research into practical tools and guidelines that can be used by HFE practitioners and other professionals is an inspiration and a constant reminder to strive to bridge the gap between research and practice. Dr. Snook is not only remembered for his academic and professional achievements and accolades, including the prestigious IEA Fellow Award, but also for his generous and caring spirit. An overview of some of his contribution to the HFE discipline can be found here: <https://iea.cc/stover-snook/>. As the IEA, we send our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

New Committee on Standardization

International standards are a strong means of promoting HFE to industries on a global scale. IEA became a Category-A Liaison of Technical Committee 159 (Ergonomics) of the International Standardization Organization (ISO TC159 - Ergonomics) in the seventies. The Category-A Liaison is a highly prestigious status that provides the same rights given to national standardization bodies except for voting power. To uplift the level of activities, the Executive Committee has established an ad hoc committee (i.e., Advisory Group on Standardization - AGS), and appointed Prof. Dr. Shin’ichi Fukuzumi as its chair. AGS is expected to cover a wide range of relevant activities including the proposal of new international standards. As its first major commitment, AGS is planning to organize special sessions at IEA2024.

AGS is hoping to identify the members of IEA member societies who are involved in international standardization. Please contact the chair (Shin’ichi Fukuzumi, shin-ichi.fukuzumi@riken.jp) and provide relevant information.

IEA Technical Committee Survey

The Resilience Engineering Technical Committee is carrying out a survey on the relationship between resilient performance and digital technologies, aimed at obtaining an overview of the main research areas, knowledge gaps, and opportunities for innovation. The IEA community is invited to take part in this initiative by filling out the survey questionnaire available here. The estimated response time is 10 minutes.

Survey link: <https://forms.office.com/e/GmNmr3m8nD>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinar: The future of work and the challenges for HFE from the UK perspective: 29 August 2023, 12h00 midday GMT (Greenwich Mean Time)

After delving into discussions regarding what artificial intelligence and human-artificial intelligence team mean for work, this webinar series is once again taking us around the world to hear different perspectives on the future of work. The next webinar in the series, which will be held on the 29th of August 2023 at midday (12:00 GMT), will explore potential challenges and opportunities for work from a United Kingdom perspective. The webinar is free to attend, but registration is required prior to the webinar. Register here to attend:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YhJu02gmQlyfF_1SqUstJw

Webinar: A mixed sensor smart chair system for real-time posture classification and chronic low back pain detection: 19 September, 23:30 UTC (8:30 KST on 20 September)

With musculoskeletal disorders being pervasive globally, research on innovative ways to identify, measure, and interpret data related to musculoskeletal disorders and associated symptoms is always required. The IEA Technical Committee on Musculoskeletal Disorders will be hosting a webinar where it will be sharing developments from research on a mixed sensor smart chair system that can be used for real-time posture classification and chronic lower back pain detection. This webinar will be held on the 19th of September at 23:30 UTC (8:30 KST on 20 September). To learn about current approaches for cutting-edge real-time posture classification, join this free webinar by registering here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ssgTI_kSTo-9KWkG1UNHAW

SPOTLIGHT ON IEA SOCIETIES

In this edition of the IEA NewsBriefs, we travel to the fifth biggest country in the world, and the largest in South America, Brazil, to learn about the **Associação Brasileira de Ergonomia (ABERGO)**, also known as the Brazilian Association for Ergonomics. We are pleased to be able to feature ABERGO, a society that is an influential player in local, regional, and international HFE platforms. We are grateful to ABERGO for their contribution to this feature and wish them the best as they continue to grow and contribute to uplifting their beautiful vibrant country through the HFE work that they do.

We are interested in learning about other IEA Societies that have not yet had an opportunity to be featured in the NewsBriefs. If your society would also like to be featured in the Spotlight on IEA societies feature, please email the IEA NewsBriefs editor (**sma.ngcamu@gmail.com**).

**ASSOCIAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE ERGONOMIA (ABERGO)/
BRAZILIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ERGONOMICS**

ABERGO Fact sheet

- **Established:** 30 November 1983
- **Approximate number of members:** 590
- **Website:** **www.abergo.org.br**

- **Instagram:** https://www.instagram.com/abergo_oficial/
- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/abergo/?originalSubdomain=br>

Having been established in 1983, ABERGO will be celebrating 40 years of its existence in November this year and growing its society to approximately 590 members! While the number of HFE professionals in Brazil is currently unknown, there is a recognition that a concerted effort to increase the number of HFE professionals is needed. Not only that, but ABERGO has over the years identified the need for HFE to be legislated and has been working with its government toward getting the HFE profession to be recognised, and get HFE requirements legislated. The Ministry of Labour already has approved the profession's code and is set for official publication in early 2024. In support of this, one of ABERGO's goals is to incorporate HFE in all the graduate courses' basic curricula in Brazil. This is a project that is already in process, and it is anticipated that the integration should be realized shortly.

Overview of ABERGO activities

ABERGO set out to contribute to the advancement of HFE and to facilitate awareness and widespread implementation of HFE in different organisations and industries, as well as within its membership base. In line with this mandate, some of the activities that ABERGO provides include the following:

- HFE webinars are hosted on a variety of topics that are of interest to ABERGO members.
- On an annual basis, ABERGO organises the Brazilian Congress of Ergonomics, which attracts an audience of about 500 HFE academics and practitioners as well as professionals from cognate disciplines who are interested in HFE matters.
- ABERGO is the custodian of the Brazilian Ergonomist Certification System (SisCEB) which is responsible for certifying HFE professionals. The SisCEB is one of the few in the world that has been endorsed by the IEA, which indicates that it is aligned with its certification requirements.
- ABERGO also has made provision technical groups (TGs) which are a platform for its members to network, exchange ideas and information, and create opportunities for members and interested organisations to collaborate. The TGs also devise meaningful ways to enhance and develop relevant HFE skills for its members while also creating opportunities to raise awareness and disseminate targeted information to the public.
- ABERGO has been involved in HFE advocacy work where they collaborate with Brazilian regulatory organisations to develop and review International Organization for Standardization Ergonomics-related material. Through its members, ABERGO continues to contribute to the development of HFE in regional (BRICS+ network) and international stages (IEA).

Upcoming ABERGO events

The 23rd edition of Brazilian Congress of Ergonomics will take place from 21 to 24 November 2023 in Florianopolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil. More information

about the conference can be found here:
www.abergo.org.br/congresso2023

ABERGO Membership

ABERGO membership is open to HFE academics, practitioners, students, and organisations who meet the criteria. Membership information and registration details can be found here: <https://www.abergo.org.br/ades%C3%A3o>

IEA LINKS OF INTEREST

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