
Editorial: *IJHFE's* second volume

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Biographical notes: Denis A. Coelho has participated in technical design endeavours, focusing on human factors and ergonomics (HFE) and carried out HFE research, making contributions in both industrially developing and developed countries. He is currently the Director of the Human Technology Group at UBI.

As we are about to turn the page on 2013, we are, coincidentally, ramping up the publication of the fourth issue of the second volume of the *International Journal of Human Factors and Ergonomics*. A stream of quality manuscripts has been quite steadily arriving at the publisher's online peer-review system, enabling regular quarterly publication of the journal. Throughout 2013, and prior to the current year, the editorial board members of the *IJHFE* have been notably seeking and encouraging such quality contributions, which has enabled maintaining a highly demanding and successful manuscript selection process based on peer-review (a list of peer-reviewers for 2013 will be published in the first issue of Volume 3).

This fourth volume, comprising two single issues and one double issue (made up of a special issue and an additional paper), consists of nine regular papers, five special issue papers, a guest editorial and a long editorial featured in the first issue. The current issue also features a book review.

In what concerns subject coverage, this volume is quite encompassing of the journal's intended coverage of topics. Physical ergonomics and anthropometrics for equipment design are touched upon by Assunção et al.'s (2013) contribution on adolescents' back pain, which was included in the first issue of the current volume. Physical ergonomics within nursing activities is the theme of the paper by van Wyk and Salmoni (2013) featured in the first issue, which also included an editorial (Coelho, 2013) touching upon cognitive ergonomics in relation to management of disasters and emergencies.

The paper by Normark and Mankila (2013) featured in the current issue touches upon human-machine systems design and eliciting human requirements on technology in connection to personalisable in-vehicle systems. Wang's (2013) contribution, also featured in this issue, focuses on usability of a novel human-technology interface in the realm of touchscreens.

In the current issue, human performance measurement is the central theme of Tenneti et al.'s (2013) paper on the preparation of a survey of capabilities aiming at providing future support to human-centred design of inclusive technical systems. The papers by Wiyor et al. (2013) and by Loft et al. (2013), featured in issue 1, also touch upon human performance measurement, focusing on visual fatigue and on situation awareness respectively.

Dotzauer et al.'s (2013) long-term study on advanced driving assistance systems in connection with older drivers, which is the last paper in this volume, represents an experimental approach to research on humans in transportation systems. The results published in Hagemann and Kluge's (2013) paper, featured in this volume's double issue, bear implications for training design of fire service teams. The double issue also holds the special issue on human factors and ergonomics in emergency management, comprising five research papers touching upon the themes of designing critical systems, designing systems for extreme environments and managing the complex participation of people in their environment. Despite the common threads that traverse them, the application domains of the five special issue papers are quite diverse. Santos et al.'s (2013) study focuses on medical emergencies in disaster-prone countries. Horberry et al.'s (2013) contribution concerns three cases of mining emergency management. Curnin and Owen's (2013) paper is based on the activity of an emergency operations centre during an extreme Australian bush fire. Cattermole et al.'s (2013) focus is set upon highway traffic incident management, and, finally, Golightly et al.'s (2013) contribution is centred on railway emergencies in the UK.

This volume includes three papers authored by Australian researchers. The Netherlands, Portugal, the UK and the USA make part of the affiliation address of the authoring team of two papers each. Finally, Canada, Germany, the Korean Republic and Sweden are each represented by one authoring team. Hence, the research contributions featured in this volume originate from four continents, encompassing nine different countries of affiliation of the authors.