As you can tell from this issue of our newsletter, we’re making excellent progress toward another successful year and an exciting annual meeting in New York City in late-September 2008. I’m very pleased with the coordination going on between the SDTG and other organizations interested in human systems integration and system development.

In preparation for HSI Working Group sessions at the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE) meeting on 26-29 January 2008 (www.incose.org), several members of the SDTG (Teresa Alley, Larry Avery, Jennifer Narkevicius, and Dennis White) are drafting a position statement to guide a memorandum-of-agreement between INCOSE and the HFES. Their draft position statement will include a list of tasks that the SDTG is prepared to do as part of our role in leading the HSI effort for HFES. Also, as noted in this newsletter, Alan Poston is serving as our liaison with the DoD HFE TAG ... another very important SDTG coordination activity.

I encourage you all to plan now to attend our annual meeting in New York City, and to submit your ideas for our portion of the technical program following the instructions given in Dennis White’s “Call for Proposals”. One of the many highlights will be selecting the “Best System Development Paper” presented at the annual meeting. This award is being named the “David Meister Award” in tribute to David Meister who was always our best and strongest advocate.

Thank you to all of the dedicated volunteers who are serving our SDTG.

Jerry R. Duncan, Chair SDTG
HFES 2008 Call for Reviewers  
By: Dennis White

The SDTG is soliciting reviewers for the 2008 HFES conference. We appreciate your volunteering to assist with this important task.

We are anticipating a larger volume of submissions this year, and "Many hands make light work" - the more reviewers we have, the fewer papers each individual reviewer has.

Even if you have reviewed before, we need you to confirm your willingness this year.

If you are willing to serve as a reviewer and have not already contacted Dennis in response to the list-serv message, please do so at dennis.white3@navy.mil and provide your preferred email address, affiliation, and please indicate if you are a current student.

Thank you in advance for your help!
Dennis White
dennis.white3@navy.mil

Are you on the SDTG List-serv?  
By: Melissa Weaver

All members should be automatically included, but there have been issues in the past. If you want to get SDTG messages and did not receive the Call for Proposals and Call for Reviewers messages that Dennis sent, please check with HFES.

Also, please remember to reply list-serv messages only if you want everyone in the SDTG list-serv to receive that reply. Otherwise, you’ll have to email the individual directly. We have not had a problem with this lately, but your assistance in this helps reduce extraneous messages for us all.
Dear Colleagues,

I'm pleased to announce that the 2008 Call for Proposals and Submission Site are now open:

http://www.hfes.org/web/HFESMeetings/08CallforProposals.html

The Systems Development Technical Group is looking forward to a great program for 2008 in New York! With the anticipated inclusion of Human Systems Integration as part of the SDTG, we are planning a HSI panel - let me know of any suggestions of folks you’d like to see on this panel. I hope to invite the three principle DoD System Acquisition HSI leaders, Ms Hamburger (Navy), Dr. Drawbaugh (Air Force) and Dr. Drillings (Army). We’d really like to represent industry as well.

We are also planning on a session for HSI – “HSI: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly”

We are discussing two joint sessions:

- One joint session with the Human Performance Modeling TG to address what HPM tools to use in various phases of system design/acquisition.
- A second session with the Test and Evaluation TG, focused on the integration of usability/human-systems performance testing into system design and development

For Systems Development, we are hoping to offer an international session or panel – “Systems Development: The International View”. With HFES holding it’s meeting in New York City, we may have enough international interest for an entire session.

And of course, we’ll have the session for general SDTG submissions – “Systems Development: Where Human Factors Meets Design”

Also new this year will be the David Meister Award, a cash prize for the best paper submitted to the TG.

So please submit any papers/posters panels to the above web site for:

- Systems Development
- Human Systems Integration
- Human Performance Modeling Tools in System Design

Please read the Call for Proposals carefully as some of the requirements have changed since the 2007 meeting. Note that the Technical Program Committee is seeking five-page proposals which must be formatted in the same two-column layout used for the proceedings papers. There is an absolute five-page limit, with no restrictions on word count. Detailed layout instructions and templates for each presentation type are included within the Call for Proposals. New and alternative formats are strongly encouraged – I especially encourage folks to consider organizing a Discussion Panel or Invited Symposium.

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General info on HFES 2008 is available at:
http://www.hfes.org/web/HFESMeetings/08annualmeeting.html
Call for Recommendations on the SDTG By-Laws

By: Larry Avery

I would like to thank all of the membership who submitted votes on the proposed revisions to the SDTG By-Laws. It is always rewarding to work with such a responsive TG membership. During this recent balloting, there were a few other suggestions for revisions to the By-Laws submitted by the voting membership. These included:

- Perform a more rigorous editorial review (the submitting individual made some excellent suggestions for revising the text)
- Rather than just focus on the more North American-centric concept of HSI, also explore and represent relevant international concepts
- Use a concept like Human-Centered Design to represent a less-DOD centric view.

While we were in the balloting process, we were unable to act on these suggestions but we would like to open up a dialog with the membership on the By-Laws and how they should better represent the SDTG. The approved By-Laws are on the SDTG website (http://sdtg.hfes.org). Please review them and submit any comments and/or suggestions by the end of February 2008 to me (lavery@dandp.com) and Jerry Duncan (DuncanJerryR@JohnDeere.com). Each suggestion will be reviewed and assessed for implementation. The suggestions will then be sent to the membership for comment. We would hope to be voting on a new revision of the By-Laws prior to the next business meeting. Please feel free to give me a call if you want to discuss this more.

Happy New Year!

Larry Avery
(919)713-0383
lavery@dandp.com

HFES 2008 Call for Proposals (continued from page 3)

By: Dennis White

Proposals must be submitted to the online system by 11:59pm Pacific time on Monday, January 28, 2008.

Here is the submission site:

Every existing user in the submission/reviewer database should have received an email providing his/her username and password -- contact HFES2008@mirasmart.com if you have any issues logging in to the Mira system.

The impact of the Systems Development Technical Group is determined by… You! Please remember to submit to the SDTG.

Thank you - I look forward to seeing you in New York!
Dennis White
SDTG Program Chair 2008
dennis.white3@navy.mil
ORIGIN
The Department of Defense Human Factors Engineering Technical Group (DoD HFE TAG) was implemented by a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Assistant Secretaries of the Services in November 1976 for the purpose of coordinating and communicating research and development at the working level among the services and other government agencies involved in human factors engineering. The first HFE TAG meeting convened on August 9-10, 1977 in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania.

GOALS
The major goal of the HFE TAG is to provide a mechanism for the timely exchange of technical information in the development and application of human factors engineering by enhancing the coordination among government agencies involved in HFE technology research, development, and application. The HFE TAG also assists, as required, in the preparation and coordination of tri-service documents, and sponsors in-depth technical interaction, which aids in identifying HFE technical issues and technology gaps.

SCOPE
Because of the diversity of the subject matter covered by the HFE discipline, the scope of the technical areas addressed by the HFE TAG is broad. For the purposes of the HFE TAG, HFE is defined as dealing with the concepts, data, methodologies and procedures which are relevant to the development, operation and maintenance of hardware and software systems. The subject matter subsumes all technologies aimed at understanding and defining the capabilities of human operators and maintainers.

COMPOSITION
The Department of Defense Human Factors Engineering Technical Advisory Group (DOD HFE TAG) is composed of technical representatives from the Department of Defense (DoD), National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) with research and development responsibility in human factors and related disciplines. There is no limitation on the number of uniform or civilian representatives from the above governmental entities. Representatives from organizations and activities with allied interests and technical experts in special topical areas are also invited to attend specific meetings.

Also participating in the HFE TAG are official representatives of technical societies or industry associations with a stated interest in human factors. These representatives must be credentialed by the HFE TAG before attending. Refer to the Technical Society/Industry (TS/I) site for more information.

TAG meetings are not open to the general public. In addition to Government employees, Government contractors, employees of private industry and academia may attend meetings if they are credentialed members of TS/I or have an invitation to attend a specific meeting from a current TAG member. The invitation must be submitted to the TAG Coordinator for approval at the time of registration.

SUBTAGS
To enhance detailed technical interchange, the HFE TAG sanctions three categories of subtags: Technical SubTAGs, Committees and Special Interest Groups. Technical SubTAGs address problems of a general or continuing nature within a specific field of technology. Committees address defined tasks or problems and are disestablished upon completion of those tasks. Special Interest Groups address a specific field of technology and may function temporarily or eventually evolve into a Technical SubTAG upon submission and approval of a formal proposed SubTAG charter. SubTAGs, Committees and Special Interest Groups are responsible for developing their own working charters or statements of purpose and are tasked with reporting to the HFE TAG on a regular basis. Membership in the various SubTAGs may include non-government individuals involved in research, development and application in the specific field of technology or topical area addressed by the SubTAG. The association of these individuals with the HFE TAG is limited to SubTAG interaction; they do not attend HFE TAG plenary sessions unless specifically invited by the current HFE TAG Chair.

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Information gathered from the HFE TAG website
Subgroups include:

- Controls and Displays
- Design: Tools and Techniques
- HFE/Human Systems Integration: Management and Applications
- Human Factors in Extreme Environments
- Human Factors in Training
- Human Factors Standardization
- Human Factors Test and Evaluation
- Human Modeling and Simulation
- Personnel Selection and Classification
- Sustained/Continuous Operations Core Competencies
- System Safety/Health Hazards/Survivability Core Competencies
- Technical Society/Industry
- User-Computer Interaction
- Workload and Stress
- Mission Centric Human Performance Measurement Interest Group

For additional information on the HFE TAG, the subTAGs, the upcoming biannual meeting, or available products, see the HFE TAG website: http://hfetag.dtic.mil

Supplemental information is also provided below on the Human Factors Standardization SubTAG.