



FEES

federation of european
ergonomics societies

www.fees-network.org



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european
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HOW IS FEES ORGANIZED?

Members of FEES are ergonomics societies; no individuals. There are two categories of members:

- a. Federated FEES-members (ergonomics societies inside the European Union including candidates and/or EFTA countries).
- b. Affiliated FEES-members (ergonomics societies in other European countries).

5 The governing body of FEES is the FEES Council consisting of representatives of members (each member one vote). All major decisions are taken by the FEES Council, which meets at least once a year. Decisions should be consistent with IEA policy, since FEES operates under the umbrella of the IEA. The day-to-day administration is executed by the FEES Executive Committee, comprising of at least a chairman, a secretary and a treasurer. Every three years, the FEES Council elects the Executive Committee.

For more information, please visit the FEES website at www.fees-network.org

WHAT ARE THE FEES-ACTIVITIES?

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FEES has initiated various activities such as:

- The preparation of a website to facilitate cooperation and information-exchange between members and to communicate externally.
- The organisation of FEES –sessions on actual European topics at the annual national conferences in the various countries.
- The publication of promotional material.
- An inventory of ergonomic activity-centres throughout Europe in order to know “who is doing what and where”.
- The establishment of a working group (Brussels Task Force) supports FEES members exploring the opportunities, offered by the European Union .

WHAT IS FEES?

1

FEES – the Federation of European Ergonomics Societies – is the organisation of the ergonomics societies in the various countries in Europe.

All ergonomics societies in Europe can be a member of FEES; inside the European Union landscape, but also outside that landscape.

The major objective for FEES is to enhance the recognition of ergonomics, contributing to economic development, to quality of life, to health and safety at work and to social progress in Europe.

More specifically:

- a. to support -under the umbrella of the International Ergonomics Association (IEA) - the development of ergonomics within the European region by:
 - enhancing mutual communication between various European ergonomics societies.
 - encouraging and facilitating contact and exchanges between ergonomists (educators, researchers and/or practitioners)
 - organising and running European conferences about evolving ergonomics
- b. to enable the good establishment of ergonomics in EU policy and programmes
- c. to assist in the access to EU resources and facilities for ergonomics
- d. to stimulate networking in the widest sense for ergonomics

WHAT IS ERGONOMICS?

2

Today there are many interpretations of ergonomics, which is a bit confusing. FEES follows the description of the IEA. The IEA adopts the following definition of ergonomics:

Ergonomics (of human factors) is the scientific discipline concerned with the understanding of interactions among humans and other elements of a system, and the profession that applies theory, principles, data and methods to design in order to optimize human well-being and overall system performance.

Ergonomists contribute to the design and evaluation of tasks, jobs, products, environments and systems in order to make them compatible with the needs, abilities and limitations of people.

WHO ARE FEES-MEMBERS?

3

At the start of FEES in 2003 the following ergonomics societies in Europe have decided for a FEES-membership:

- Nederlandse Vereniging voor Ergonomie
- Belgian Ergonomics Society
- Irish Ergonomics Society
- Associação Portuguesa de Ergonomia
- Hellenic Ergonomics Society
- Gesellschaft für Arbeitswissenschaft
- Nordic Ergonomics Society
- Finnish Ergonomics Society
- Ergonomics Society
- Swiss Society for Ergonomics
- Asociación Española de Ergonomia
- Società Italiana di Ergonomia

These societies represent approximately 4.000 ergonomists in Europe.