Subject: Review of the 6th International Ergonomics Conference

ERGONOMICS 2016 – Focus on Synergy

Dear colleagues and friends,

We are happy to inform you that the 6th International Ergonomics Conference ERGONOMICS 2016 – Focus on Synergy took place from 15th to 18th of June 2016 in Zadar, Croatia, and it was held in a relaxed atmosphere of the Falkensteiner Hotels & Residences, Borik.

The Conferences in this series have been organized by the Croatian Ergonomics Society (CES) every three years since 2001, and from 2016 is set to be organized every two years. Existing for more than four decades, CES have recognized the importance of knowledge and experiences exchange between scientists and experts, as well as in the broader population, which is now one of the most featured objectives of CES plans and strategy.

Since 2001, five International Ergonomics Conferences have been successfully organized, in their consecutive order, as follows:

• 1st International Ergonomics Conference – Ergonomics 2001, Zagreb,
• 2nd International Ergonomics Conference – Ergonomics 2004, Stubičke Toplice, Zagreb,
• 3rd International Ergonomics Conference – Ergonomics 2007, Stubičke Toplice, Zagreb,
• 4th International Ergonomics Conference – Ergonomics 2010, Stubičke Toplice, Zagreb,

This time ERGONOMICS 2016 – Focus on Synergy was a joint project with:

• Swiss Ergonomics Association (SwissErgo),
• Ergonomics Society of Taiwan (EST),
• Chinese Ergonomics Society (CES),
• Chinese Association of Ergonomics Societies (CAES),
• Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences (FPZ), University of Zagreb,
• Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture (FSB), University of Zagreb and
• Faculty of Textile Technology (TTF), University of Zagreb.
Furthermore, for the first time the ERGONOMICS 2016 – Focus on Synergy was endorsed by:

- International Ergonomics Association (IEA) and
- Federation of the European Ergonomics Societies (FEES),

During the Conference opening ceremony, Aleksandar Sušić (President of CES and Conference manager) emphasized most important details about the Conference, and asked Yushi Fujita (President of IEA), Eric Min-Yang Wang (past President of IEA), Sylvain Leduc (President of FEES), Yuh-Chuan Shih (President of EST) and Tomislav Mlinarić (Vice dean of FPZ) to address the participants with a few words of welcome.

More than 90 papers had been submitted, and after the review process, 60 papers were presented at the Conference in oral or poster sessions. Presented papers are published in the Book of Proceedings of the Conference with the ISSN 1848-9699, which was printed with full text of all reviewed papers only. Participants came from the following countries: Argentina, Austria, Croatia, China, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Japan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the UK and the USA.
In the introductory part of the Conference sessions, the following invited speakers have contributed with their lectures: Yushi Fujita (Japan), Sylvain Leduc (France), Eric Min-Yang Wang (Taiwan) and Uwe Reischl (USA).

During the second day of the Conference, 17th of June, IEA-FEES-CES official meeting was held between the following participants: Yushi FUJITA (IEA), Andrew TODD (IEA), Eric Min-Yang Wang (IEA), Sylvain LEDUC (FEES), Aleksandar SUŠIĆ (CES), Ivana SALOPEK ČUBRIĆ (CES), Davor SUMPOR (CES), Tanja JURČEVIĆ LULIĆ (CES), Tino BUCAK (CES/ ASC).

Among the others, the main topics discussed:

- Objective difficulties in the CES work
- Potential action plan of CES linking and effective collaboration with IEA and FEES to support the development of Ergonomics in Croatia.

For the first time the participants were able to attend the Research and Project Space, as one of the sessions, where some of the participants presented their research and professional ideas, propositions and problems, along with experimental instrumentation and methodology.

Conference events such as Welcome party, City Zadar Tour, Surprise excursion to Nin Saltworks and Gala Conference Dinner were additional opportunities to meet old and new friends and make new contacts, in order to achieve common goals: open new possibilities for cooperation and contribute to progress within the ergonomics family.

The scientists and students of the FPZ participated in the three Conference working bodies: Organizing committee, Programme committee and Technical committee. Besides, they participated with a total of six scientific papers, presenting the results of the research in the area of applied ergonomics and applied acoustics in traffic. Out of these six papers, four papers were written in co-authorship with the students. For some of them, these were the first experiences in the paper presentation at a scientific symposium. The students of the FPZ participated actively in the Technical committee and they worked successfully all four days at the official desk of the Conference, making the stay at the Conference pleasant for all the participants.
In the future Croatian Ergonomics Society will be open for developing more intensive cooperation with all institutions and associations from Croatia and abroad dealing with ergonomic research and assessment, with the aim of mass popularization of humanity during work.

We are excited to meet you again in Zadar in 2018, and you are very welcome to inform others who might be interested to participate in the 7th International Ergonomics Conference ERGONOMICS 2018.

On the behalf of the Croatian Ergonomics Society,
President of Croatian Ergonomics Society
Assoc. Prof. Aleksandar Sušić, Ph.D.
&
Secretary General of Croatian Ergonomics Society
Asst. Prof. Davor Sumpor, Ph.D.