How to Submit a Great Abstract to the Applied Ergonomics Conference!

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2015 Applied Ergonomics Conference
Program Committee Co-Chairs
Presenter Introduction

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  - Sr. Ergonomics Specialist at SAS Institute

- Mark Benden, PhD, CPE
  - Co-Chair for AEC Program Committee 2015
  - Associate Professor and Director of the Texas A&M Ergonomics Center
Why Are You Here? (Poll)

What is the reason that you are attending this webinar?

1. I am interested in submitting abstract for 2015 and am a first time speaker.
2. I have presented in past and would like to understand the changes in abstract submission process for AEC 2015.
3. I am interested in submitting for poster session.
4. General interest.
5. All of the above.
Why Are We Doing this Webinar?

- To *minimize variations* in abstract submissions
- To provide clarity with the abstract submission process
- To provide more information on tracks, abstract descriptions and review process
- To encourage more speakers to submit abstracts
- To enable potential speakers to submit abstracts that meet all the requirements
- More importantly…to continue to raise the bar to provide attendees an outstanding educational and networking experience!
Webinar Goals

To educate potential submitters on the following:

- AEC abstract submission process
- AEC abstract review process
- Dates to know
AEC abstract submission process

- Create your user id and password and enter your user profile and contact information.
- This information allows both IIE and the Program Committee to contact you if there are questions regarding your abstract, or if you are selected as a speaker.
- If the information changes, please update it.
A list of FAQs has been added this year to help submitters:

- What do I need to do to submit an abstract?
- What type of speaking opportunities are there?
- What if I don’t want to speak, but still want to share my project?
- How many abstracts may I submit?
- How many speakers/ authors can I submit?
- What types of topics are accepted?
- Can I submit something I’ve presented before?
- How is my abstract reviewed?
- If I’m accepted, what do I need to do as a speaker?
- Do speakers get any discounts?
- When will I know if my abstract has been accepted?
Abstract Submission Form
2015 Applied Ergonomics Conference

NOTE: Fields marked with a Red Asterisk (*) are required.

Presentation Type *

Standard Presentation - Standard presentations are **20 minutes** in length with 5 additional minutes for questions.
Extended Presentation - Extended presentations are **35 minutes** in length with 5 additional minutes for questions.
Master Track Presentation - These 90 minute sessions are expert panels featuring brief presentations by panelists followed by expert discussion and Q&A. (not for a single presenter).
Poster Presentation - Project or case study presented in poster format.
Featured Speaker - These sessions are by invitation only.

- Standard Presentation
- Extended Presentation
- Master Track Presentation
- Poster Presentation
- Featured Speaker
Track Descriptions: Types of Presentations

- **Standard Presentation** - Standard presentations are **20 minutes** in length with 5 additional minutes for questions.
- **Extended Presentation** - Extended presentations are **35 minutes** in length with 5 additional minutes for questions.
- **Featured Speaker** – By invitation only.
- **Master Track** – This track is meant for expert panel sessions, not a presentation by a single individual.
Track Descriptions: Types of Presentations

- **Poster Session** – Poster presenters do not speak during a track. They are set up in the exhibit hall and asked to man their poster during specific hours when the exhibit hall is open. Poster presenters usually discuss their projects more informally either one-on-one with attendees, or with small groups. It’s recommended that poster presenters prepare a short 2-3 minute summary of their project.
Track Descriptions: Selecting the right track for your talk

- Track Descriptions are listed on the Abstract Submission Site.
  - Applied (Translational) Research
  - Design, Product Design and Evaluation and Modeling
  - Diverse and Global Workforce
  - Ergonomics Programs/Policies/Auditing the Ergonomics Process
  - Potpourri
  - Manufacturing Applications and Case Studies
  - Office Ergonomics Programs and Applications
  - New for 2015: Tools and Technologies for Practitioners
Track Descriptions: Selecting the right track for your talk

- New for 2015:
  - **Tools and Technologies for Practitioners**
    - This track will focus on the tools available to practitioners for evaluating the risks associated with development of a musculoskeletal injury.
    - Topics in this track include strengths, weakness and proper applications of current analysis tools, case studies and new or emerging tools and analysis technologies.
    - Uses and applications of measurement tools are also included in this track.
Titles: Pulling the audience in

- Title: The title should be concise and give the reader an idea of what the presentation will address.

- Examples of clear titles
  - *Practical Design Applications for the Aging Workforce*
  - *An Evaluation of Hand Activity Level and Musculoskeletal Disorders among Poultry Processing Employees*
  - *The Effects on Material Handling Equipment Design with an Aging or Obese Workforce*
  - *Ergonomic Innovations that Catalyzed Safety Culture Change at Snyder Roofing*

- Examples of catchy titles
  - *The Ten Commandments of Ergonomic Design*
  - *Industrial Ergonomic Solutions: Fad vs. Fact*
  - *Vertical Mice Showdown: The Pros and Cons of Popular Vertical Mice Designs*
  - *The Ups & Downs of Sit/Stand Workstations: An Observational Assessment/Case Study*
  - *'Standing-Up to Obesity' - Office and Facility Design Guidelines for a More Active Workplace*
Learning Objectives: Key takeaways

- Learning Objectives (75 words or less)
  - Describe clearly what others will learn from your presentation and take back to apply at their facility.
  - Three bullet point-type learning objectives are recommended.
  - Reviewers want to know that attendees will gain value from attending your presentation.
**Presentation Descriptions:**

**Why should I go to your session?**

- **Description (200 words or less)**
  - This is where you provide a presentation description to be used in promotional literature if your presentation is accepted.
  - Give a clear and concise synopsis of what you will be presenting, and what they can expect to learn by attending your session.
  - Where applicable (typically case studies and applied research), it is recommended that you include an introduction to your topic, the approach or methods used, a discussion, the significance of the topic and a brief summary of the findings.
More Details

What types of presentation topics work?

- Real world case studies
- Completed project (research and industrial) with final results
- Shareable proven program elements that have applications across industries
More Details

What topics are we looking for in 2015?

- New and innovative projects or case studies
- Abstracts relating to new track
- Exciting new program ideas that worked well and translate across industries
Example: *Practical Design Applications for the Aging Workforce*

**Learning Objectives:**

- Review of the most relevant human factors design guidelines & considerations.
- Practical workplace solutions to meet the "silver tsunami".
- Best practices and management strategies that engage older workers. Ergonomics plays a critical role in supporting the needs of our aging baby boomer workforce.
- This session will explore how companies are meeting the everyday work requirements for this tremendously powerful work demographic segment. Practical real-world examples will be presented with the hands-on lessons learned.
Example: *Practical Design Applications for the Aging Workforce*

**Description:**

- The aging of roughly 77 million baby boomers is sending a silver tsunami over all aspects of business. The majority of employees will be staying at their jobs longer than in the past, while some will be rejoining the workforce at an advanced age. Contrary to popular belief, at 45 years of age (not 55 or 65) we begin to lose irretrievable amounts of aerobic capacity, strength, vision, hearing, and mental agility. A key to success for many companies will be designing work environments to optimize the newly reshuffled employee base. This session will explore typical age related sensory and motor changes facing aging workers, how work environments can and should be altered to maximize productivity for the aging workforce and how a risk-based approach to workplace safety management can improve productivity for employees of all age groups.
Applied Research Example:
6-Month Follow-Up: Comparison of Sit-to-Stand and Stand-Biased Desks in a Call Center

Learning Objectives

- At the end of the presentation, participants will be able to:
  - Understand the need for stand-capable desks in certain office settings
  - Learn the difference between two types of stand-capable desks and the advantages/disadvantages of each
  - See how use of stand-capable desks changes over time and how they compare to traditional seated workstations
Applied Research Example:
6-Month Follow-Up: Comparison of Sit-to-Stand and Stand-Biased Desks in a Call Center

Description

- Introduction: As many office employees are spending 50-90% of their workdays seated, employers are looking to stand-capable workstations as a way to get employees out of their chairs. Stand capable workstations offer office employees an alternative to sitting in their chair all day, but many perceive them as an expensive desk that employees never stand at once the novelty of the desk wears off. This study examines stand-capable desk usage over time and also compares two types of stand capable workstations: a sit-to-stand adjustable workstation and a stand-biased workstation.

- Methods: A randomized control trial was conducted over the 6-month period immediately following installation of sit-to-stand and stand-biased workstations in a new call center in Tennessee. 91 participants enrolled in the study and agreed to wear an activity monitor and complete a survey at baseline, 3 months, and 6 months.

- Discussion: Results of the 52 participants that completed the study show that both types of stand-capable workstations lead to sustained standing habits over a 6 month period. Further, results show that those who are overweight may benefit even more from a stand-biased workstation compared to those who have a normal weight body mass index.
Poster Example: *The Ergonomics of Holding and Using Mobile Devices*

Learning Objectives

- At the end of the presentation, participants will be able to:
  - State and analyze major ergonomics issues of holding and using mobile devices
  - Apply measures and methods for ergonomics analysis of mobile devices
Poster Example: *The Ergonomics of Holding and Using Mobile Devices*

Description:

- As the world moves to do the lion’s share of its computing on mobile devices, the ergonomic characteristics of holding and using mobile devices becomes more critical. This poster presentation overviews the establishment of a series of ergonomics experiments, studies and analysis to measure and investigate holding and using mobile devices. Using design-of-experiment (DOE) methods to investigate factors such as device size, mass, grip, and task, we are embarking on a DOE series to measure response characteristics of holding and using mobile devices including requirements for using one or both hands, energy use, efficiency and dissipation, control-use accuracy, task completion, fatigue, preference and comfort. The DOE series’ significance is that it is intended to establish benchmark measures, a data baseline and protocol for assessing the physical ergonomics of mobile devices. Results, conclusions and recommendations will be presented.
The AEC Program Committee consists of 15-20 volunteers who are practicing ergonomics from various industries and academia and a student representative.

Reviewers are broken down into teams of 3-5 people. Each team reviews all of the abstracts in 1-3 tracks.

The abstract review process is a blind review. Reviewers do not see the author’s names or descriptive information.

Each submission is reviewed by at least three (3) reviewers.
AEC Abstract Review Process

- Reviewers rate each abstract individually, assigning points to various categories, depending on the content of the abstract and the criteria given in each category.

- Categories include:
  - Abstract Organization
  - Applicability for the Practitioner
  - Value to the Field of Ergonomics
  - Language Quality

- Reviewers give a final recommendation for the abstract.
AEC Abstract Review Process

- Authors may be contacted if there is a question regarding their abstract submission (appears to be in the wrong track, etc.), or if the reviewers feel the submission would be better suited to a poster, Ergo Cup submission, etc.

- Scores from the reviewers are averaged for each abstract.

- Abstracts are ranked by score.
AEC Abstract Review Process

- Program Chairs review the ranked abstracts to make sure that author and company limits are not exceeded.
- Evaluation ratings from past conferences are reviewed for previous speakers.
- Final abstracts are selected and the conference schedule is laid out.
- Authors are notified of the status of their abstract.
Abstract Submission Schedule

- Abstract Submission Deadline: September 26, 2014
- Poster Submission Deadline: November 3, 2014
- Author Notification: November 7, 2014
- Poster Notification: December 1, 2014
- Speaker/Poster Presenter Registration Deadline: January 16, 2015
- PowerPoint Presentation/Paper due: February 13, 2015
Polls

- Are you thinking of submitting an abstract?
  - YES! I’ll submit one right now!
  - YES, but I need to think about my topic.
  - Yes, but I’ll probably submit last minute.
Questions?

See you there!