Training Technical Group

The Training Technical Group consists of people interested in all aspects of human factors as applied to training systems. This includes training system design and evaluation, innovative technologies for training, and instructional design and implementation applied to training systems. The single largest sponsor of human factors training research, development, and acquisition is the Department of Defense

TECHNICAL FOCUS

Human factors practitioners working in the field of training are involved in training development and research. The technology of training has advanced dramatically in recent years with the advent of such developments as low-cost computer-generated visual displays, training approaches using artificial intelligence, and networking of computers for training.

The human factors practitioner is an important part of a team responsible for designing and implementing training for large systems and training devices. Specific activities include the following:

- Developing user profiles that match equipment characteristics
- Developing user interfaces, controls and displays, and technical information to train in operation and maintenance
- Developing, evaluating, and implementing innovative technologies and approaches for training
- Testing prototypes
- Evaluating training techniques and programs of instruction

MEMBERSHIP

The TTG consists of over 300 individuals who work for training firms, universities, consulting firms, industry, and government agencies. The TTG's primary goal is the exchange of information among members and promotion of the development and application of human factors data and principles to training systems.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

The Training Technical Group, like other technical groups within the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society, performs a variety of functions and services for its members. Its sponsorship of technical sessions at the Annual Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society provides the opportunity for exchange of information among

leading professionals in the field. A newsletter is sent to all members about four times a year. Additional information on the Training Technical Group is available from HFES. It is not necessary to be a member of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society in order to join the Training Technical Group.

SUCCESS STORIES

Members of the Training Technical Group of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society have been involved with a number of successful programs, some of which are briefly described below.

- **Network of Simulation for Training.** The best example is SIMNET (Simulation Networking), which allows hundreds of vehicles and other players in various locations to participate in a training exercise all at once and in real time.

  Members of the TTG have been instrumental in developing training applications for simulation networking technology. The focus of current simulation networking research is on developing the means that allow combat teams to practice critical combat skills that are too dangerous or even impossible to practice in peacetime.

- **MANPRINT**.
  As the Department of Defense builds more advanced, more capable, and more sophisticated military systems, the impact on the human becomes more important. Our members continue to be heavily involved in the U.S. Army's Manpower and Personnel Integration program, which forecasts the impact of these high-tech machines on soldiers' physical and cognitive capabilities.

- **Paperless Technical Manuals.**
  The Department of Defense is in the process of converting paper technical manuals supporting the operation and maintenance of major systems to "paper-less" or electronically delivered technical information. Members of the TTG have been instrumental in developing the human factors aspects of this technology. Individual projects have demonstrated the validity of the concept, developed authoring techniques, and defined the computer-user interface for paperless manual delivery devices.