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Media Contact:

Catherine Lockwood 360 Live Media for HFES Catherine@360livemedia.com

HFES Launches Refreshed Website Design for Inclusive Collaboration and Engagement

The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society's Redesigned Website Offers an Accessible Approach to Networking, Collaboration and Knowledge Exchange

Washington, D.C.— The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (<u>HFES</u>) today announced the launch of its refreshed website, designed to offer a more inclusive and accessible platform for members to connect, collaborate and build their network. With access to relevant content and a cleaner interface, the new website design offers members and non-members an opportunity to learn more about HFES, as well as understand the impact and career opportunities in human factors and ergonomics in a variety of industries.

"With human factors and ergonomics permeating every industry, our website showcases the extraordinary potential of human factors and ergonomics research and the value of our profession." said Susan Kotowski, President of HFES. "Through the website's cleaner and more modern interface, those looking to learn more about this field can seamlessly navigate our endless wealth of resources and uncover new opportunities for their own interest areas. Members can also more easily engage and collaborate to share research, and unlock new possibilities for applications of human factors and ergonomics."

The HFES website offers access to various ways for people to connect through volunteer opportunities, the HFES Communities discussion board, technical and Affinity Groups, as well as research from the online papers and recordings from previous HFES International Annual Meetings. Each technical group now has its own landing page with key contacts, educational resources and the latest discussions from HFES Connect.

"When making an inclusive website design, we put usability at the center of our work," said Barbara Chaparro, Ph.D., Chair, Digital Communications Committee. "Through our redesigned platform, we considered human factors and the end user experience at every step, uncovering seamless ways to foster collaboration. The refreshed design not only allows our members to connect but also welcomes everyone from students to business leaders to learn more and get involved."

The website is designed to meet AA accessibility standards as outlined in the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines to provide a fully accessible website experience. In addition to the cleaner and more coherent design, this ensures that the visual content is accessible to a wider range of individuals with

disabilities, including visual, auditory and cognitive impairments. Utilizing plugins in website design application Figma, the HFES team checked the visual design for accessible touch targets, tabular views, color contrast, font sizes and two-indicator state changes.

Additionally, HFES aimed to ensure consistent use of interactions and provided two indicators or state changes for every clickable item. The website is also accessible on iOS and Android devices for a seamless experience across all devices. By adhering to these guidelines, HFES is committed to providing an inclusive online experience for all users.

To learn more about HFES, visit: hfes.org. HFES is also hosting their international annual meeting ASPIRE 2024 in Phoenix, AZ, from September 9-13, 2024.

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About Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES)

Founded in 1957, HFES is the world's largest scientific association for human factors/ergonomics professionals. HFES serves the needs of members and the public by promoting and advancing the discovery and exchange of knowledge concerning the characteristics of human beings that are applicable to the design of systems, products, tools, and environments of all kinds. The society's more than 3,000 members work in educational institutions, companies, government and military research centers, and independent consultancies in 58 countries. About 15 percent of members are students. For more information, please visit https://www.hfes.org/.