

IEA VE NEWS

IEA Visual Ergonomics Technical Committee Newsletter

August 2020

From the chair

Dear Readers,

The COVID-19 pandemic situation has started a controversial discussion about the future of car traffic. On one hand, home office work has reduced the frequency of commuting. On the other hand, many people are preferring to commute by car because of the lower risk of infection compared to travelling by public transportation.

Cars will make up an important proportion of future traffic and will therefore keep visual ergonomists busy. Since the early work of Charman (Charman, WN, Vision and driving – a literature review and commentary, *Ophthal. Physiol. Optics*, 1997, 17(5), 371-391) in which he discusses the lack of visual tests for screening out risky drivers, little progress in visual screening for licensing has been achieved. This lack may in part explain the confusing situation in visual screening for licensing across the world.

Another topic is the role of vision in mixed city traffic situations where manual, semi-autonomous, and self-driving cars share the same traffic area with pedestrians and cyclists. The more efficient the automation, the more crucial is the contribution of the human supervisor (Bainbridge, L, *Ironies of automation, Automatica*, 1983, 19(6), 775-779). In traffic, human-human communication will not disappear, although some interesting approaches of visual communication between self-driving cars and the human pedestrian have been suggested (<https://media.jaguarlandrover.com/news/2018/08/jaguar-land-rovers-virtual-eyes-look-trust-self-driving-cars>). Visibility of obstacles and road users will remain an important factor contributing to traffic safety. The need for visual ergonomics will therefore stay central in transportation.



Marino Menozzi
IEA VE TC Chair

Congratulations

Mark Rosenfield, of SUNY College of Optometry, New York, has recently been appointed Editor-in-Chief of *Ophthalmic and Physiological Optics*.

Congratulations, Mark, on such a prestigious appointment!



Recent publications

Journal articles

Huang, YY. (2020) A sudden variation in the visual field reduces driver's accuracy in estimation of the speed of the car ahead. *Ergonomics*. 10.1080/00140139.2020.1793007

Tan, Z, Roberts, AC., Lee, EH., Kwok, KW., Car, J., Soh, CK., & Christopoulos, G. (2020). Transitional areas affect perception of workspaces and employee well-being: A study of underground and above-ground workspaces. *Building and Environment*, 106840. DOI: 10.1016/j.buildenv.2020.106840

Venugopal, V., Roberts, AC., Kwok, KW., Christopoulos, G., Soh, CK. (2020) Employee experiences in underground workplaces: a qualitative investigation, *Ergonomics*, DOI: 10.1080/00140139.2020.1780306

Other media

Jeffrey Anshel has been interviewed for various US media outlets on vision comfort and working from home. Here is one publication: <https://www.tnp.sg/lifestyle/health/tips-beat-eye-fatigue-computer-usage>

Call for Abstracts and Proposals



IEA
VANCOUVER
2021

International Ergonomics Association
21st Triennial Congress

The IEA hosts an international congress every three years. The next congress will be in Vancouver, Canada, June 13-18, 2020. The deadline for abstracts and proposals is **25 September 2020**.

Call for lectures and e-posters: For instructions see: <https://iea2021.org/call-for-papers>

When making a submission, please select the Subject Track "Visual Ergonomics" so it will be assigned to our IEA Visual Ergonomics TC.

Symposium "Accessibility and Usability for All: Indoor Visual Environments". If you would like to participate in this symposium, then please submit a proposal as per the instructions at <https://iea2021.org/call-for-papers>. When making your submission, please indicate that is for this symposium and select the Subject Track "Visual Ergonomics" so it will be assigned to our IEA Visual Ergonomics TC.

Call for Papers

A special edition "Seeing beyond 2020" is planned for the journal *Ophthalmic and Physiological Optics*. Deadline for submission of manuscripts: **30 September 2020**. For more information see:

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/pb-assets/assets/14751313/OPO%20CFP%20Spring%202021%20%28A4%20Leaflet%29.pdf?campaign=dartwol|5404741103>

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 30th November 2020

Please send any visual ergonomics news or announcements to Jennifer Long at jlong@visualergonomics.com.au