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Introduction To Human Factors Engineering (2nd Edition)





Synopsis

This book describes the capabilities and limitations of the human operatorâ "both physical and mentalâ "and how these should be used to guide the design of systems with which people interact. General principles of human-system interaction and design are presented, and included are specific examples of successful and unsuccessful interactions. It links theories of human performance that underlie the principles with real-world experience, without a heavy engineering-oriented perspective.

Topics include design and evaluation methods; different systems such as visual, auditory, tactile, vestibular, automated, and transportation; cognition, decision-making, and aesthetics; physiology; and stress, safety, accidents, and human error. An excellent reference for personnel and managers in the workplace.

Book Information

Hardcover: 608 pages Publisher: Pearson; 2 edition (November 30, 2003) Language: English ISBN-10: 0131837362 ISBN-13: 978-0131837362 Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 1.3 x 9.4 inches Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (25 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #70,044 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Industrial, Manufacturing & Operational Systems > Ergonomics #25 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Industrial, Manufacturing & Operational Systems > Industrial Design #849 in Books > Medical Books > Psychology > General

Customer Reviews

I am rather split on how to objectively assess this book. I will declare out right that I am studying a PhD in a very specific topic area of human factors psychology which could be clouding my judgment.Verdict: Cannot recommend.Positives: The text is very simple to read. When elaborate explanations in other textbooks have absolutely bewildered me beyond any hope of understanding -Introduction to Human Factors Engineering has provided a very useful tool to refer to. It explains a very broad range of concepts with simple and intuitive examples which certainly make a dense field very accessible.It covers a wide range of topics from visual system, auditory systems and cognition to work physiology, stress and even training. If you are new to the field and are very uncertain of what area you might be interested in or if you need this book for a generalist course - it certainly covers a lot.Negatives: The book has a very "Jack of all trades, Master of none" feel to it. Certain topic areas in it feel barely touched and the wikipedia pages told me substantially more. For instance, despite the abundance of research into prospective memory in the past decade; the most recent reference regarding prospective memory in the text is 1999.In fact, despite it apparently being published in 2013, it appears it has actually had no updating since the 2004 edition. Given the rate of development in computing and psychological science since then, the decade long lag is very very noticeable. For anyone looking for a primer, this is certainly not the book to look for.If I am going to get picky, the build quality of the book is also subpar with what I would expect for the price.

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