

# COMMENT

## FROM THE EDITOR

**For 10 years we have been a strong voice for human factors and ergonomics.**

In 1993, a new publication was introduced that, according to its editor, Daryle Jean Gardner-Bonneau, would “provide human factors professionals with a new platform upon which we can effectively communicate our problems, solutions, opinions, and ideas – not only among ourselves but, more important, to our clients, customers and colleagues in allied professions.” In 1996, Immediate Past Editor John Shafer carried this banner forward with a vigorous development effort.

In Volume 1, Issue 1, Michael Maddox and Donald Allen asked “What Have You Done to My Interface?” Robert Fuld exposed “The Fiction of Function Allocation.” Robert Carr was the voice of “The Lone Ergonomist,” Douglas Bobko and Marc Fusco told us about “The Operator’s Helper,” and Steven Casey gave us a glimpse of how large mistakes can educate people about “That Newfangled Technology.”

Anthony Andre and Leon Segal showed us how a judicious application of our science can help avoid “sometimes ridiculous” usability problems. Linda McQuiston and Jake Pauls helped us focus on ergonomics for people with disabilities and problems with the existing standards for stair design, respectively.

Leighton Smith spoke about objectivity in forensic ergonomics, and Peter Hancock provoked us with a compelling question: “What good can we really do?”

What good, indeed?

Here it is, 2003, and I am absolutely thrilled to be a part of *EID*’s mission during the celebration of our 10th anniversary. For 10 years we have been a strong voice for human factors and ergonomics, and, I like to think, we’ve been providing a steady and convincing response to Peter’s question.

We’ve been doing this – and will continue to do this – in two major ways. First of all, *EID* has provided a much-needed channel for practitioners in our field, fostering a community and a forum for collegial exchange. What I love about HFES, I also love about our magazine: For me, it’s a bridge among the 20 or so disciplines that make up our field, and I cherish my quarterly walks on that bridge, admiring the sights and picking up occasional souvenirs to bring home to apply to my own pursuits.

Second, and I hope the nonpractitioners reading this will share my opinion, *EID* is an effective tool for spreading the good word. We strive to offer you – the clients, managers, and potential consumers of our work – technically sound expositions of the best of our ideas. And we endeavor to present them in an accessible, attractive, and engaging format.

How are we doing? Are you more informed or, better yet, more excited about the field that so many of us consider a calling? Let us hear from you. We’re still here, and we aim to please!

John F. (Jeff) Kelley