



SwissErgo

Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Ergonomie  
Association Suisse d'Ergonomie  
Associazione Svizzera di Ergonomia  
Swiss Ergonomics Association

# SwissErgo Facts & Figures

Monday, June 10, 2013

The Swiss Ergonomics Association, in short SwissErgo, is the umbrella organization for all ergonomists and people involved in ergonomics in Switzerland. SwissErgo is a member of the *Swiss Federation of Societies for Safety and Health at Work* (Suissepro). Internationally SwissErgo is active as member of the *International Ergonomics Association* (IEA), the *Centre for Registration of European Ergonomists* (CREE) as well as the *Federation of European Ergonomics Societies* (FEES). SwissErgo's goal is to promote ergonomics in academic studies and in professional practice.

SwissErgo was founded in spring 1999 with 26 founding members and has today more than 150 members. Our association is “young” considering that in the second half of the last century Swiss ergonomists produced significant scientific contributions in the field and were at the forefront of the international development of ergonomics. Starting points and driving forces were three institutions led by important personalities: The Institute for Occupational Medicine and Ergonomics at the University of Geneva (Paule Rey, 1969-1994), the Institute for Occupational Health Science at University of Lausanne (Michel Guillemin, 1984-2005 and Brigitta Danuser 2005-) and the Institute for Hygiene and Applied Physiology at the ETH Zurich (Etienne Grandjean 1950-1983 and Helmut Krueger 1983-2004).

SwissErgo organizes an annual “exchange of experiences day” and one-day seminars on current themes. Members of SwissErgo are active in all geographic and linguistic regions of Switzerland and in all work the major domains of ergonomics. As an active member of CREE, SwissErgo also offers certification as a European Ergonomist (Eur.Erg.) to suitably qualified members.

Today the development of ergonomics in Switzerland has slowed down after a decade of growth owing to the closure of the ETH Institute for Hygiene and Applied Physiology and the dropping of the ergonomics stream in the Master of Work and Health course. However we witness that more and more academic disciplines and professional groups have included methods and principles of ergonomics into their practice. This integration opened new areas for interventions and broadened our involvement in software development, systems and industrial design.. The recognition of ergonomics as an important part of occupational health and safety is still not legally anchored but in practice more and more people are active as consultants in this area. Therefore it can be noted that the interest in the field of ergonomics is growing and that our society is faced with new and different needs in terms of education.

Ergonomics has become more diverse, colorful and dynamic. Ergonomics as a scientific discipline and as profession is still developing and significant changes in our work environment provide researchers and practitioners with new challenges. Traditional topics such as lighting, noise and handling of loads remain important. New topics such as telework and information technology are still relatively unexplored. The world of work and the needs of society and the individual are subject to constant change. Ergonomics methods and standards (e.g. workplace and stress analysis) must constantly be updated and improved.

### Number of members of the Swiss Ergonomics Association

When	ordinary members	corporate member(s)	honorary members
General Assembly 2012, 09.03.2012, Berne	<b>145</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
General Assembly 2013, 08.03.2013, Berne	<b>157</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

**Corporate Member:** PhysioSwiss

**Honorary members:** Prof. Dr. Dr. Helmut Krueger (emeritus, ETH Zürich) since 2005, Prof. Dr. Daniel Ramaciotti (emeritus, Geneva & Neuchatel), since 2010.

### Number of European Ergonomists (Eur.Ergs.) in Switzerland

Currently 28 active (certified) European Ergonomists, since 1995 33 Swiss Ergonomists have been certificated by CREE. (-> See actual list on [www.eurerg.org](http://www.eurerg.org))

### The domains of intervention

Although members of SwissErgo can be found working in the major domains of ergonomics, the majority are concentrated in occupational health and safety positions. Many members have a background in physiotherapy and are specialised in the prevention of musculoskeletal disorders at work. A substantial number are nevertheless active in product and software design. Many of the Eur.Ergs also hold occupational hygiene or safety management qualifications due to the laws relating to occupational health and safety specialists, which currently do not recognise human factors and ergonomics specialisation.

### Internet

Function	Adress
Website address for linking in English	<a href="http://www.swissergo.ch">http://www.swissergo.ch</a>
Newsletter subscription address	<a href="mailto:info@swissergo.ch">info@swissergo.ch</a>
RSS feed (if exists)	NA
XING group account	<a href="http://www.xing.com/net/swissergo">http://www.xing.com/net/swissergo</a>
LinkedIn group account	<a href="http://www.linkedin.com/groups/SwissErgo-2828347/about?trk=anet Ug_gprpro">http://www.linkedin.com/groups/SwissErgo-2828347/about?trk=anet Ug_gprpro</a>

### Ergonomics university / technical college training in Switzerland

University	Organisation	Contact	Website
Université de Fribourg	<i>Industrial Psychology &amp; Human Factors</i>	Tanja Manser <a href="mailto:tanja.manser@unifr.ch">tanja.manser@unifr.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.unifr.ch/psycho/site/units/IP">http://www.unifr.ch/psycho/site/units/IP</a>
Université de Fribourg	<i>Cognitive Ergonomics group</i>	Jürgen Sauer <a href="mailto:juergen.sauer@unifr.ch">juergen.sauer@unifr.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.unifr.ch/psycho/site/units/ke">http://www.unifr.ch/psycho/site/units/ke</a>
Université de Neuchâtel	<i>Institut de psychologie du travail et des organisations</i>	Marino Menozzi <a href="mailto:mmenozzi@ethz.ch">mmenozzi@ethz.ch</a>	<a href="http://www2.unine.ch/ipto/page-5519.html">http://www2.unine.ch/ipto/page-5519.html</a>
Universität Bern	<i>Abteilung für Arbeits- und Organisations- psychologie</i>	Prof. Dr. Norbert K. Semmer Prof. Dr. Achim Elfering	<a href="http://www.aop.psy.unibe.ch/">http://www.aop.psy.unibe.ch/</a>
EPF Lausanne	<i>Human Computer Interaction Group of EPFL</i>	Pearl Pu <a href="mailto:pearl.pu@epfl.ch">pearl.pu@epfl.ch</a> Sylvain Castagnos <a href="mailto:sylvain.castagnos@epfl.ch">sylvain.castagnos@epfl.ch</a>	<a href="http://hci.epfl.ch/">http://hci.epfl.ch/</a>
Université de Genève	<i>FAPSE, unité TECFA (Technologies de Formation et d'Apprentissage)</i>	Daniel Peraya <a href="mailto:daniel.peraya@unige.ch">daniel.peraya@unige.ch</a> Mireille Betrancourt <a href="mailto:Mireille.Betrancourt@unige.ch">Mireille.Betrancourt@unige.ch</a>	<a href="http://tecfa.unige.ch/">http://tecfa.unige.ch/</a>
IST, Lausanne	Institute for Work and Health, Institut universitaire romand de Santé au Travail	Brigitta Danuser <a href="mailto:brigitta.danuser@hospvd.ch">brigitta.danuser@hospvd.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.i-s-t.ch/">http://www.i-s-t.ch/</a>
ETH Zürich	<i>ZOA ETHZ Forschungsgruppe Psychologie der Arbeit</i>	Theo Wehner <a href="mailto:twehner@ethz.ch">twehner@ethz.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.pda.ethz.ch/">http://www.pda.ethz.ch/</a>
ETH Zürich	<i>ZOA ETHZ Public and Organizational Health / Abteilung</i>	Bauer Georg <a href="mailto:gbauer@ethz.ch">gbauer@ethz.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.Zoa.ethz.ch/">http://www.Zoa.ethz.ch/</a>

	<i>Gesundheitsforschung und Betriebliches Gesundheitsmanagement</i>		
HEG - Haute école de gestion Arc	<i>Institut du management et des systèmes d'information, cellule "Santé et société"</i>	Alain-Max Guenette <a href="mailto:alain-max.guenette@he-arc.ch">alain-max.guenette@he-arc.ch</a> Achille Grosvernier <a href="mailto:achille.grosvernier@he-arc.ch">achille.grosvernier@he-arc.ch</a>	<a href="http://imsi.he-arc.ch/imsi_organisation_sante/santé-et-société">http://imsi.he-arc.ch/imsi_organisation_sante/santé-et-société</a>
HEG - Haute école de gestion Arc	<i>Filière Industrial Design Engineering (IDE), conception ergonomique et design</i>	Malik Attouche <a href="mailto:malik.attouche@he-arc.ch">malik.attouche@he-arc.ch</a>	
Hochschule für Angewandte Psychologie, FHNW	<i>Institut Mensch in komplexen Systemen (MikS), Institut für Kooperationsforschung und -entwicklung (ifk)</i>	Heinz Schüpbach <a href="mailto:heinz.schuepbach@fhnw.ch">heinz.schuepbach@fhnw.ch</a> Toni Wäfler <a href="mailto:toni.waefler@fhnw.ch">toni.waefler@fhnw.ch</a> Hartmut Schulze <a href="mailto:hartmut.schulze@fhnw.ch">hartmut.schulze@fhnw.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.fhnw.ch/aps/">http://www.fhnw.ch/aps/</a>
ZHAW, Winterthur	Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, Departement Gesundheit	Barbara Zindel <a href="mailto:zind@zhaw.ch">zind@zhaw.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.gesundheit.zhaw.ch/">http://www.gesundheit.zhaw.ch/</a>
La Scuola universitaria professionale della Svizzera italiana (SUPSI)	Dipartimento ambiente costruzioni e design (I)	Paola Canonica <a href="mailto:paola.canonica@supsi.ch">paola.canonica@supsi.ch</a>	<a href="http://www.supsi.ch/dacd">http://www.supsi.ch/dacd</a>

### Topic events

Calendar of your current and future meetings and their topics for 2013 and 2014 (to subscribe, hotmail or Google),

Day	Event	Place
08.03.2013	SwissErgo General Assembly 2013, The role of ergonomics in the Swiss OHS-system	Hotel Ador, Berne
03.10.2013	Combined Conference SwissErgo-Swiss Occupational Hygiene Association "PPE - From protection against risks to hazards through protective equipment" (German and French contributions)	Fribourg, Freiburg
07.03.2014	SwissErgo General Assembly 2014 and exchange of experiences day " (German and French contributions)	Berne
summer 2014	Anniversary event 15 years SwissErgo	open

Please check: <http://www.swissergo.ch/> / <http://www.xing.com/net/swissergo>

### Topic projects

Projects with others societies, with IEA, CREE, OSHA, ISO, etc.

Project	Partner	Theme
EJAE	FEES	<a href="http://www.safetyscience.hu/ojs/index.php/EJAE/index">http://www.safetyscience.hu/ojs/index.php/EJAE/index</a>

### The European Month of Ergonomics in October 2013

becomes an annual event for all of us in Europe. If you wish it, we can prepare together this event. What do you mean to prepare? Which are your ideas for this event?

Project	Partner	Theme
03.10.2013	Swiss Occupational Hygiene Association (SOHA)	Bi-lingual French-German Conference on "PPE - From protection against risks to hazards through protective equipment". Joint organization between SwissErgo and SOHA. Venue: Fribourg / Freiburg.