Preface

Human Factors and Ergonomics have made a considerable contribution to the research, design, development, operation, and analysis of transportation systems which includes road and rail vehicles and their complementary infrastructure, aviation, and maritime transportation. This book presents recent advances in the Human Factors Aspects of Transportation. These advances include accident analysis, automation of vehicles, comfort, distraction of drivers (understanding of distraction and how to avoid it), environmental concerns, in-vehicle systems design, intelligent transport systems, methodological developments, new systems and technology, observational and case studies, safety, situation awareness, skill development and training, warnings, and workload.

This book brings together the most recent human factors work in the transportation domain, including empirical research, human performance, and other types of modeling, analysis, and development. The issues faced by engineers, scientists, and other practitioners of human factors in transportation research are becoming more challenging and more critical.

The common theme across these sections is that they deal with the intersection of the human and the system. Moreover, many of the chapter topics cross section boundaries, for instance by focusing on function allocation in NextGen or on the safety benefits of a tower controller tool. This is in keeping with the systemic nature of the problems faced by human factors experts in rail and road, aviation and aerospace, and maritime research—it is becoming increasingly important to view problems not as isolated issues that can be extracted from the system environment, but as embedded issues that can only be understood as a part of an overall system.

In keeping with a system that is vast in its scope and reach, the chapters in this book cover a wide range of topics. The chapters are organized into 14 sections:

Section 1: Aviation: Human Factors Safety in Aviation and Aerospace
Section 2: Maritime- Human Factors in Maritime
Section 3: Road and Rail: Driver Safety
Section 4: Road and Rail: Human-Machine Interaction
Section 5: Road and Rail: Automation
This book will be of interest and use to transportation professionals who work in the road and rail, aviation and aerospace, and maritime domains as it reflects some of the latest Human Factors and Ergonomics thinking and practice. It should also be of interest to students and researchers in these fields, to help stimulate research questions and ideas. It is my hope that the ideas and studies reported within this book will help to produce safer, more efficient and effective transportation systems in the future.

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