



10th International Conference on managing fatigue: Managing fatigue to improve safety, wellness, and effectiveness

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1. Introduction

This Special Issue of *Accident Analysis and Prevention* is principally based on papers presented at the 10th International Conference on Managing Fatigue in San Diego, California on March 20–23, 2017. In 1993, the inaugural edition of the Managing Fatigue Conference series was held in Fremantle, Australia. As the brainchild of Dr. Laurence Hartley (Murdoch University), and influenced by Mr. Robert Carroll (Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration) and Mr. Sesto Vespa and Mr. Valerie Gil (both from Transport Canada), the event provided a venue for members of government, industry, and academia to share and discuss the latest research on fatigue in transportation. Although the main emphasis of the meetings has always been on fatigue in transportation, including highway, rail, transit, aviation, maritime, and aerospace, other sectors, such as natural resources, mining, healthcare, and the military, have also been strongly represented.

As the series has matured over the years, the cross-fertilization of varying research and program domains has been a strength and highlight of the event. For example, attendees might have questions about how one domain (e.g., trucking) handles operator fatigue and be interested in how those approaches could be utilized in different domains (e.g., healthcare). With an overarching theme of driver/operator/practitioner fatigue manifesting during working hours, the conference provides attendees with an understanding of, potential solutions for, lessons learned from, etc., how other domains address fatigue-related issues that may be similar to those in their own domain.

Though primarily held in Australia, this (approximately) biennial conference made successful visits to the U.S. in 2005 in Seattle (6th conference) and in 2009 in Boston (7th conference). The 10th International Conference on Managing Fatigue was hosted in the U.S. for the third time in 2017, in San Diego, California. The papers included in this Special Issue highlight the range of issues being investigated and applied in the field of fatigue research.

2. Abstract review

Abstract submissions came from a mix of academics, researchers,

and practitioners. A panel of approximately 40 reviewers from various industries, research institutions, governmental organizations, and academia reviewed the submitted abstracts for scientific quality. Upon an initial filter by the organizing team for applicability to the topics and areas of interest for the Meeting, each abstract was reviewed using a standardized review criteria. The reviewers indicated that 110 were of sufficient scientific quality to be included in the conference program.

Based upon the accepted paper topics, relevant breakout session topics were developed and the sessions populated with the accepted papers for presentation. Based on the number of papers accepted, four parallel concurrent sessions were developed. The program agenda was organized by grouping the abstracts into topic areas to the extent possible. Topic areas included the following (some areas had numerous breakout sessions): Crash Causation, Fatigue Countermeasures, Fatigue Modeling/Fitness for Duty, Fatigue Detection, Sleep Disorder/Health, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Research, Scheduling, Training and Education, Research Needs, Fatigue Risk Management Systems, Wearable Alertness Monitoring Technologies, and Biological Markers. The abstracts and presentations are available on the conference website: <https://www.fatigueconference2017.com/presentations.html>.

3. Managing fatigue meeting

In total, there were 270 attendees at the event, representing a wide breadth of organizations, institutes, academic institutions, governments, and industries from all over the world, including the North America, Australia, Europe, Asia, and Africa. A Fatigue Management Workshop was held prior to the main conference, facilitated by Dr. Adam Fletcher. Also, a fatigue risk management safety meeting, the FRMS Forum, was held the day after the event and approximately 115 attended.

4. Conclusions

There were 270 attendees at the event in San Diego, up from the approximately 120 attendees that attended the 9th edition of the event

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in 2015, held in Perth/Fremantle Australia. Based on 93 post-event surveys, attendees seemed to feel the conference was a positive experience. Attendees felt the Conference speakers were knowledgeable and presentations were informative, networking opportunities were valuable. Overall, attendees reported enjoying the conference venue, location, and catering and 87% indicated they would likely attend a future Managing Fatigue Conference. Survey respondents offered valuable suggestions for speakers and presentation topics for future Managing Fatigue conferences, including more industry representatives and presentations more opportunities and encouragement for student attendance and participation.

Acknowledgments

The 10th International Conference on Managing Fatigue: Managing

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