

Overview of the ANSI/HFES 100 -2007 Ergonomic Standard

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A New Standard is Released The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has approved ANSI/HFES 100 – 2007, Human Factors Engineering of Computer Workstations, as a new American National Standard. The formal announcement came on November 16, 2007.

ANSI: American National Standards Institute
BIFMA: Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturer's Association
HFES: Human Factors and Ergonomics Society
HFS: Human Factors Society (prior name of HFES)

How does this affect other ergonomic standards and guidelines?

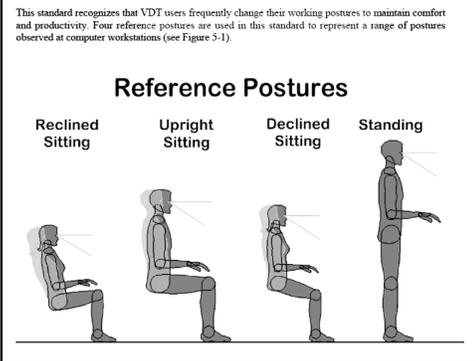
- ▶ ANSI/HFES 100 – 2007 replaces ANSI/HFS 100 – 1988 which was administratively withdrawn in 1998.
- ▶ BIFMA G1 – 2002 Ergonomics Guideline for VDT (Visual Display Terminal) Furniture used in Office Works Spaces will coexist with ANSI/HFES.
- ▶ ANSI/HFES 100 – 2007 references and recognizes BIFMA G1 -2002 which is still recognized by furniture manufactures in North America.

Updates to ANSI/HFES 100 – 2007

- ▶ Uses the most current ergonomic research information
- ▶ Includes more types of computer input devices including mouse, trackball, joystick, light pens and touch screens
- ▶ Has an increased emphasis on the 4 recommended work postures for computer workstations

Reference Postures (refer to Figure 1)

- ▶ ANSI/HFES 100 – 2007 recognizes that VDT users frequently change their work postures during the day to maintain comfort and productivity
- ▶ VDT users require frequent movement to achieve comfort and productivity
- ▶ Each of the four postures listed in Figure 1 place the body in a symmetrical and supported position
- ▶ A users' chair should support the three seated postures effortlessly while the user is working at a VDT



Above, Illustration of Reference Postures.
(From ANSI/HFES 100 – 2007
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- ▶ Variations on the Referenced Postures are expected during a work session. However, not all postures are equally comfortable or productive

A comparison of ANSI/HFES to BIFMA G1 – 2002

- ▶ ANSI/HFES 100 – 2007 gives requirements and recommendations for the design and configuration of the human-hardware interfaces in a computer workstation. This includes the furniture as well as input devices and visual displays
- ▶ BIFMA G1 – is focused solely on ergonomic guidelines for furniture design
- ▶ Both are based on the Natick 1987-88 anthropometric survey of Army personnel

How is Knoll addressing this standard?

- ▶ Knoll Product Design will use both ANSI/HFES 100 - 2007 and BIFMA G1 – 2002 for development and design of new furniture

Knoll research initiatives focus on links between workspace design and human behavior, health and performance, and the quality of the users' experience. We share and apply what we learn to inform product development and help our customers shape their work environments.

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