



## **European Society for Computing and Technology in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care (ESCTAIC)**

The following frequently asked questions give an overview of ESCTAIC, its tasks, its members and other important issues.

### **Who is ESCTAIC?**

— The European Society for Computing and Technology in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care was founded 1989 in Glasgow. ESCTAIC has more than 100 members coming from all over Europe, but also from USA and Japan. Most of the members are physicians working in the field of anaesthesia and / or intensive care. But the membership also includes engineers, scientists from other faculties and businesspeople. They share a common interest in technology and use ESCTAIC as a platform for communications and information exchange. ESCTAIC itself is member of the World Society for Technology in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care.

You can find more information on our homepage: <http://www.ESCTAIC.org>

### **What are the objectives of ESCTAIC?**

- The promotion of European scientific and practical activities and ideas in the field of computing and technology in anaesthesia and intensive care,
- the initiation and the promotion of co-operation between European institutions working in the field of computing and technology in anaesthesia and intensive care,
- the promotion of information transfer and co-operation between individuals, scientific institutions and commercial companies,
- the supply of information about computing and technology,
- communication with other societies working in this field,
- the promotion of teaching and training in this field,
- the utilisation of knowledge and experience in the field of computing and technology in anaesthesia and intensive care.

### **What benefits do I obtain as a member of ESCTAIC?**

As a member of ESCTAIC you have access to other members in most European countries. Our experts in the field discuss a wide range of topics related to technology in medicine.

For the annual meetings of ESCTAIC members pay a reduced congress fee. The reduction is typically higher than the annual fee for the society.

Members of ESCTAIC have the right to vote in the annual general assembly of ESCTAIC. They can also become officers on the executive board.

## Does ESCTAIC have a meeting?

Yes. ESCTAIC members have met since 1989 on an annual basis at various locations throughout Europe. The meetings so far were held in:

- Austria (5x)
- Greece (1x)
- Italy (2x)
- Germany (3x)
- United Kingdom (1x)
- Hungary (1x)
- Switzerland (1x)
- France (1x)

On average the meetings attracted 150 participants. The meetings of ESCTAIC are always a mixture of scientific work, the exchange of ideas, practical advice and small talk with good friends in an informal atmosphere. This tradition is one of the secrets underlying the success of this small society. Newcomers are as welcome to join ESCTAIC as experts. The lectures presented at the meetings range from leading edge discussions to down-to-earth practical advice. But the special atmosphere of international friendship is the key to the success of ESCTAIC.

In addition ESCTAIC organises satellite meetings in association with major meetings such as ESA and others.

## Who can become a member of ESCTAIC?

Anybody who is interested in technology in anaesthesia and intensive care.

## What are the fees for ESCTAIC?

ESCTAIC is organised as a German charitable society so it pays no tax. The fee is used purely for the administration of basic membership lists, to cover postage costs and the costs of distributing information. ESCTAIC has no employees. All work done for ESCTAIC is voluntary.

**The annual membership fee is only EUR 30.-- / USD 30.-- .**

## Who leads ESCTAIC?

ESCTAIC has one official board of which consists of three people:

- The **Chairman** is leading the society (Chairman@ESCTAIC.org).
- The **General Secretary**, who is responsible for all official affairs with the German authorities and for taking the minutes at the Annual General Meeting (Secretary@ESCTAIC.org).
- The **Treasurer** is responsible for membership issues and financial affairs (Treasurer@ESCTAIC.org). He should also be your first point of contact if you are interested in a membership.

In addition ESCTAIC has a board of national co-ordinators:

- Czech Republic: Ivan Cundrle [icun@ics.muni.cz](mailto:icun@ics.muni.cz) [icund@med.muni.cz](mailto:icund@med.muni.cz)
- Finland: Ilkka Kalli [ilkka.kalli@iki.fi](mailto:ilkka.kalli@iki.fi)



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| • Italy:         | Vincenzo Lanza     | <a href="mailto:lanza@biblio.unipa.it">lanza@biblio.unipa.it</a>                                 |
| • Netherlands:   | Rolf Huet          | <a href="mailto:R.C.G.Huet@anest.azg.nl">R.C.G.Huet@anest.azg.nl</a>                             |
| • Norway:        | Jon A. Gjerlow     | <a href="mailto:jong@axp1.pmddata.no">jong@axp1.pmddata.no</a>                                   |
| • Portugal:      | Chedas Fernandes   | <a href="mailto:chedas@mail.teleweb.pt">chedas@mail.teleweb.pt</a>                               |
| • Russia:        | Alexander Eremenko | <a href="mailto:maxbabaev@mail.med.ru">maxbabaev@mail.med.ru</a>                                 |
| • Ukraine:       | Felix S. Glumcher  | <a href="mailto:gulyayev@mail.kar.net">gulyayev@mail.kar.net</a>                                 |
| • USA:           | Marc J. Bloom      | <a href="mailto:bloom@med.pitt.edu">bloom@med.pitt.edu</a>                                       |
| • Yugoslavia:    | Iлона Schaffer     | <a href="mailto:schaffer@EUnet.yu">schaffer@EUnet.yu</a>   |

At present not all countries are represented. The task of the national co-ordinators is to provide links between the executive board and the members in their respective countries. They also help to distribute information among those who are interested in ESCTAIC.

## What are the topics discussed in ESCTAIC?

- patient data management
- simulation of anaesthesia and intensive care
- standardisation of data sets e.g. for quality assurance
- ergonomics
- artificial intelligence
- quality assurance
- new developments
- decision support systems
- economic benefits of technology
- man-machine interfaces
- knowledge based systems
- closed loop systems
- voice recognition in the operating theatre
- monitoring
- development of new sensor techniques
- patient controlled analgesia
- standards for technical devices
- data processing
- neurophysiological monitoring
- target controlled infusion systems



- smart alarms
- ergonomics
- electronically controlled ventilators
- networking
- the internet
- virtual textbooks

## What are the benefits for an industrial company in joining ESCTAIC?

For industrial members ESCTAIC provides some very interesting opportunities to get in contact with experts in the field throughout Europe. New technological trends are discussed very early on in the meetings of ESCTAIC. If the company needs beta testers they can recruit them from the members of ESCTAIC. Product requirements are identified on the basis of „first hand“ experience. Through the World Society for Anaesthesia and Intensive Care the company can gain contacts with societies in the USA, Australia, Japan etc.

## How do I become a member?

Just send an email to Lutz Krummreich, the treasurer of ESCTAIC. He will provide you with all the information you need: [Treasurer@ESCTAIC.org](mailto:Treasurer@ESCTAIC.org)