

Title	RESPONSE TO STRESS: OCCUPATIONAL ASPECTS
Author	Colin Mackay and Tom Cox(Eds)
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Brief Introduction	<p>This book is a collection of papers presented by the U.K. Ergonomics Society's Conference on 'A Psychophysiological Response to Occupational Stress' which was held at the University of Nottingham in 1978. The papers range in orientation from highly ergonomic studies (e.g. 'The effect of motivation and mild hyperventilation on tracking accuracy') to more medically-orientated research (e.g. 'Population field studies of catecholamines') to research with a strong socio-psychological approach (e.g. 'Demands, supports, constraints and psychological health'). Some of these studies focus in on specific occupation groups (e.g. teachers, marine pilots, nurses etc), while others explore the effects of certain job characteristics on employee behaviour (e.g. 'Psychoneuroendocrine reactions to mechanized and computerized work routines'). The book is on the whole very badly organized. The papers are just thrown together without any kind of conceptual or structural framework. Themes running through some of the papers could have been an aid to such organization and would have helped the reader more fully understand the context of some of the findings. The editors would have provided us with a better service had they stuck to the psychophysiology of occupational stress and avoided including articles unrelated to such a theme (e.g. 'Stress, health and management performance: the role of the company doctor').</p>