

Size for Universal Design Project Overview



The "Size Data and Methods for Universal Design in Ireland" research and guidance project was operated by the Centre for Excellence in Universal Design at the National Disability Authority in Ireland with an advisory panel of Anthropometry and Ergonomics experts. The project contractor team are experts in anthropometry and human variability research and design.

The project focussed on how human body size and shape are important considerations for the Universal Design of products, workspaces and the built environment. It addressed the importance of body size and shape in the specification of, and eventual selection of personal everyday products and the procurement of shared equipment such as public furniture. It is understood that designs that consider body size and shape can help to avoid causing users the experience of discomfort, embarrassment, or harm.

Universal Design refers to the design and composition of an environment so that it can be accessed, understood and used to the greatest extent possible by all people, regardless of their age, **SIZE**, ability or disability.

The research project produced the three reports described below:

Part 1: Systematic Review of International Literature

Part 1 conducted a systematic review of international literature to identify the optimal human size data resources and methods for use in Universal Design.

Part 2: Irish National Survey of Stakeholders in Universal Design

Part 2 involved operating a national survey of Irish stakeholders and users of size data in design. It identified the current size data and methods being used to apply size in design and what would best promote size in design.

Part 3: Size Data and Methods for Universal Design in Ireland

Part 3 of the project produced a final report along with a Recommended Design Range Size data table for Universal Design. It included guidance to inform the future development and application of size data, lists of resources, a glossary and four "Universal Design Information Sheets on Body Size" to help advance the application of size as a key factor in Universal Design in Ireland, (e.g, Information Sheets - Background, Data, Design, Testing).

Reports are available on request from info@ceud.ie or +353 (0)1 6080 456