

Curriculum vitae



Since 2009, Frank Ritz is Professor of Organizational and Engineering Psychology at the Department of Applied Psychology at the University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland (UAS NWS), Institute Humans in Complex Systems. Before he was Lecturer at the UAS NWS (since 2007), Berlin University of Technology (since 2001) and University of Applied Sciences - HTW Berlin - School of Technology and Economy (since 1999).

Prof. Ritz was born on 15. November 1968 in Hagen, Germany. He studied psychology at the Universities of Koblenz/Landau and Berlin University of Technology. He was a Ph.D. student from 2001 to 2003 at the Institute of Ergonomics, Berlin University of Technology. His dissertation was about team performance factors in cross-cultural comparison – a study in German and Chinese operating rooms. Since 2004, he has continued his research at the Berlin University of Technology, at the Leibniz University Hannover and at the UAS NWS.

The main objective of his research is to provide psychologically based concepts and methods for organizational design and organizational learning in high-hazard systems (e.g. nuclear power plants and aviation) taking into consideration the changing technological, economic and societal demands and opportunities.

Special interests are the increasing flexibility of work and their consequences for the individual and organizational management of uncertainty. Application fields for his research are e.g. safety culture, team performance in high-hazard systems, analysis of safety relevant events, organizational learning, effects of new technologies on work processes, and collaborative planning within and between organizations.

Prof. Ritz is member and executive of the Swiss Plattform Safety Management. He has published on topics of human factors, system safety, safety management and organizational behavior. He has worked with companies such as the Swiss and German Railways, Swiss and German Nuclear Industry, Swiss Air Traffic Control and various public organizations.