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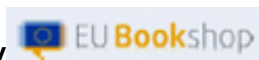
10/01/2008

## Factsheet 76 - National economics and occupational safety and health



Governments, their regulators and agencies aim to improve occupational safety and health (OSH) to reduce the cost to society of injury and illness, while at the same time improving competitiveness and national efficiency.

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External economic incentives for prevention

**Daniela Treutlein**, TNO, the Netherlands

Economic incentives in occupational safety and health (OSH) describe processes that reward organisations for safe and healthy [workplaces](#). From a European perspective, incentives are seen as an effective tool complementary

to OSH regulation aimed at encouraging businesses at the management level to provide good OSH. Tax or insurance premium reductions are common examples. A range of economic incentive schemes can be classified along two lines: First, according to the source issuing the incentive, i.e., public governmental authorities or workers' compensation insurers, and second, according to the mode of operation, i.e., result-based or effort-based incentives. Below, the most commonly applied external financial incentive schemes are explained in further detail.

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