

Annual Report 2007

European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

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European Agency
for Safety and Health
at Work

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**OUR MISSION IS TO MAKE EUROPE A SAFER,
HEALTHIER AND MORE PRODUCTIVE PLACE TO WORK**



*Jukka Takala, director and
Christa Schweng, chairperson*

Foreword

2007 was a year in which we achieved a great deal at the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA, the Agency).

As we look back, one of the highlights was the closing event of the 2006 'Safe Start' campaign, which focused on young workers. We had over 400 people in Bilbao for the event, which saw awards being presented for examples of good practice in keeping young people safe at work. The event was lively and informal, and a major success: a great end to a very productive campaign. It brought home to us the difference we can make by engaging people's interest.

Another major influence on our work this year was the new Community Strategy for Health and Safety at Work, 2007-2012, which will guide our work over the coming years, and which was endorsed by the European Council under the German Presidency. Subsequently, the European Parliament adopted a resolution in January 2008, which not only solidly supported the principles of the new Community Strategy in general, but specifically underlined the importance of the work of the Agency. Such bold political reinforcement of sound workplace health and safety objectives bodes well for the success of the Strategy and it provides all of us here at the Agency with an auspicious backdrop to further drive our work in 2008.

Furthermore, we look forward to the report due in the first half of 2008 from the European Economic and Social Committee.

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work played a key role in the launch event for the new Community Strategy, which was organised under the Portuguese Presidency. Leading policymakers and stakeholders met in Lisbon in September 2007 to discuss how best to achieve the objectives set out in the Community Strategy, which aims to cut work-related accidents by a quarter across the EU, together with an ongoing, sustainable and uniform reduction in occupational illnesses.

Among the topics discussed were the different experiences of the EU Member States in establishing and implementing their own national strategies, which is a key element of the new Community Strategy. It also emphasises the need for encouraging proper risk assessment, and for continuously monitoring progress. The focus is on achieving a high level of compliance with the legislation that is already in force, in particular among small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and in high-risk sectors, and adopting a health-focused approach.

And we're currently using the Community Strategy to shape our own work, particularly in our plans for 2009-13. If we are to promote

workers' safety and health while increasing employment and productivity through greater competitiveness, there needs to be an increased effort on the part of all those involved in the field of occupational safety and health (OSH). We in the Agency can contribute by developing awareness-raising campaigns, and promoting good safety and health through the exchange of experience and good practice. We need to work across Europe in an integrated and strategic way, to reduce the high cost, both human and economic, of occupational accidents and diseases.

The new Community Strategy recognises our unique position to collect, analyse and disseminate information on safety and health at work in order to promote a culture of prevention of accidents and ill health. Some of the tasks that the Community Strategy foresees for the Agency we are already carrying out, while others still need to be.

In 2007 we held first discussions with our stakeholder groups on the Agency's strategy for 2009-13, which sets out what we plan to do in the years ahead. The Community Strategy situates our work in context, starting with the global situation and the European Strategy, and working through to national strategies in the EU Member States.

We saw the Irish, Spanish and German safety and health strategies during the year. The UK strategy – Revitalising Health and Safety – and several others were produced a few years ago. These strategies set out the national efforts in safety and health, that we will be working to support and promote through our awareness-raising activities.

Our Agency strategy, which will be published in 2008, does not represent a break with the past, therefore, but builds on the achievements and strengths we have developed since we were established. The strategy will include a multi-annual work programme, which sets out our objectives for the strategy period.

Of course, the Community Strategy was prepared by the Luxembourg unit of the European Commission, not by us. It is they who are the Strategy's moral and practical guardians. But their capacity to co-ordinate Member State action is limited: that's where we come in. There are 27 Member States now, plus the EFTA, Candidate and potential Candidate countries. We have

a crucial role in promoting the Strategy, especially in its greater focus on knowledge and awareness-raising. Though regulation and enforcement are still important, there is an increasing emphasis on measures that Member States put in place voluntarily.

This was made clear during one of the European Parliament sessions, in which expert advice was being sought on important issues in safety and health. The questions focused on new rules and Directives that could be introduced in the EU. But the expert advice was unanimous – what was important was implementing the existing regulations. And regulations are just one tool in the toolbox – the development of knowledge, advocacy, collaboration, networking – these are just as important.

We're still campaigning to get safety and health higher up the political agenda – it's not yet where we want it to be. Seldom do governments give it its proper emphasis.

But a focus on safety and health can help politicians achieve their objectives. Angela Merkel's government in Germany, for example, is seeking to raise the pension age from 65 to 67. But it's important to have working conditions that support this, so that people are able to work beyond the current retirement age. In the most problematic sectors – construction for example, but also in growing service sectors, such as hotels, restaurants and catering, and home care – it's rare even to see 64-year-olds. People should come out of their working life safe and sound. The Agency can suggest ways of ensuring that this happens.

The implications of the new Community Strategy for the Agency are a greater role in advocacy and awareness-raising. We can expect a higher-profile role in future, but we need to show that we can provide information and advice that is useful. The Strategy makes clear how important safety and health at work will be in the future of Europe – it should mean that we are in a better position to get things done, and to encourage Member States to work together. But that doesn't mean that we can expect an increase in resources.

Our tight network of national partners is what set us apart from other agencies – partners who include the focal points in the different Member States, which are usually the national safety and health

authorities. This network goes down to every single enterprise, at least in theory – so it's not just a case of involving the 60 or so people that we have in the Agency, but the 2 or 3 million people involved in safety and health at work across Europe.

We aim to be a European centre of excellence for occupational safety and health information. But we also want to be an organisation which is sustainable, and which meets the corporate social responsibility requirements of enterprises, by reducing our consumption of energy and resources for example.

In terms of our campaigning activities, 2007 saw 'Lighten the Load', our highly successful campaign comprising a large series of activities around musculoskeletal disorders. We also carried out much of the preparatory work on our forthcoming European campaign on Risk Assessment. In future we will be moving to a two-year cycle for our campaigns – this gives more time for implementation, making it easier for our national counterparts to work on their own campaigns, and it allows more time for follow-up activities.

The ethical component of our message continues to be important, but we also need to emphasise the economic feasibility of what we are advocating. Good safety and health is good business. We will be continuing with our work around economic incentives for businesses to invest in keeping workers safe and healthy. And we will be getting a better picture of what is going on in European businesses around safety and health issues, not just from Eurostat, but also from national statistical bodies.

In the coming years, we need to look at lifetime health issues, as well as accident prevention. These days, European economies are not based so much on primary industries: service industries are now the main employer. It's easy to identify the technical issues in heavy industry that can lead to accidents, but the more subtle, longer-term health issues, such as stress, can be harder to spot.

And in relation to biological hazards, infectious diseases or the most frequent occupational diseases such as skin problems, asthma, or even occupational cancer, we need new methods of estimating the global burden of work-related problems. We need to go beyond the established statistics of mortality caused by work – the real scale of work-related

problems, which includes work-related diseases and not just accidents, may be many times greater. In 2006 there were 7,000 fatal workplace accidents in the EU, but some international studies estimate that 167,000 fatalities may be due to work-related diseases. We have a key role in making these wider health effects understood.

As time goes on, so our relationship with other organisations in Europe, and particularly with the Parliament, Council and Commission, becomes more effective. The way the EU works isn't the simplest. But in our field of safety and health we are able to communicate and support each other's work, which is a considerable achievement. We will continue to work to strengthen this co-operation.

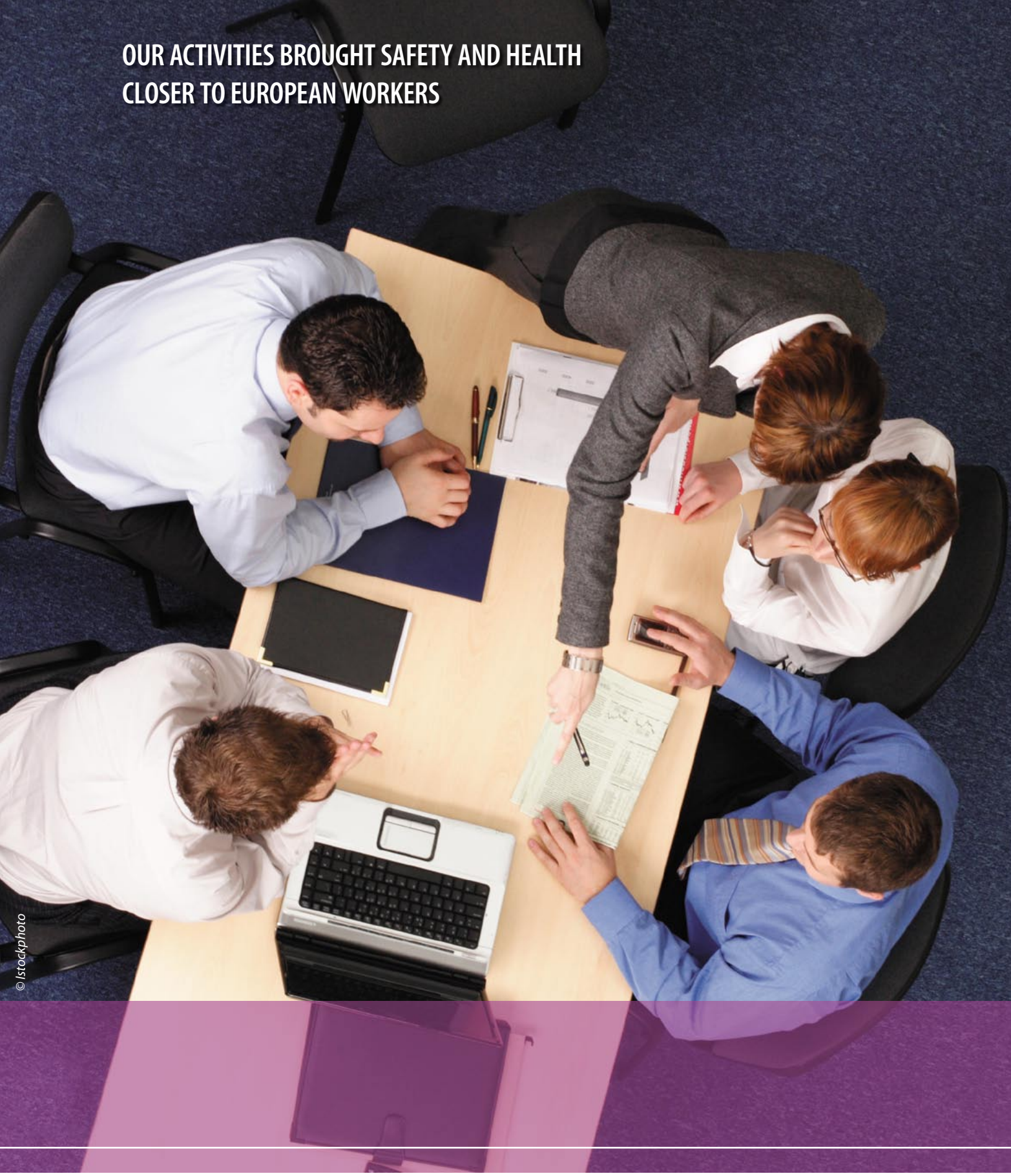
Our priorities as we go into 2008 include our campaign on Risk Assessment for SMEs. We will continue to help SMEs in the new Member States to reach the highest standards in occupational safety and health, just as we do with SMEs in the rest of the EU – a challenge for us in terms of sending out a coherent message. Our purpose is to get more harmonised values of safety and health throughout the EU.

Through our campaigns and our other activities, we're building the idea that we're all part of the same Europe. We send out the same message simultaneously in 22 languages, helping to unite Member States and create a common European identity based on common values. At the core of the EU we want to see a shared valuing of human life and health. We're not here just to help economies to prosper, but so that people can feel safer and healthier at work. And even before countries are close to joining the EU, we can help them prepare to become part of the same family. That is something that we can continue to be proud of.

We would like to thank Bertil Remaeus, Government Group representative on the Governing Board, who was our chairperson until March 2007. Our thanks go also to the focal points and our many other partners, and to our staff, for the excellent work that they have carried out during the year.

*Christa Schweng, chairperson
and Jukka Takala, director*

**OUR ACTIVITIES BROUGHT SAFETY AND HEALTH
CLOSER TO EUROPEAN WORKERS**



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Summary

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA, the Agency) was involved in many different areas of occupational safety and health (OSH) in 2007. The Agency's role is to collect, analyse and disseminate information on safety and health at work, and to promote a culture of prevention of accidents and ill health.

Of great importance was the new Community Strategy for Health and Safety at Work, 2007-2012, which will shape EU-OSHA's work over the coming years.

The Agency played a key role in the launch of the Strategy, which aims to cut work-related accidents by a quarter across the EU and to reduce occupational illnesses.

Moreover, initial discussions with stakeholder groups were held on EU-OSHA's own strategy for 2009-13.

2007 saw the publication of an external evaluation, which focuses especially on the way that EU-OSHA works with its network of focal points, usually the national health and safety authority in each Member State. The evaluation was generally positive, and will help the Agency and focal points to cooperate more closely.

EU-OSHA helped to establish national focal points in Albania, Serbia, Montenegro and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia through CARDS, a co-operation programme between the European Union and the Western Balkans.

The 2007 European campaign focused on musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs), the most common form of work-related illness in Europe. 'Lighten the Load', which highlighted the rehabilitation and reintegration of workers with MSDs, as well as prevention of MSDs themselves, culminated in the European Week for Safety and Health at Work from 22 to 26 October 2007, with a broad range of activities and events organised across Europe. To support the campaign, EU-OSHA produced a range of information materials, including reports on the reintegration of workers and MSD prevention. The campaign also featured Good Practice Awards, recognising organisations that have made innovative contributions in tackling MSDs.

Much of the preparatory work on the forthcoming European campaign on Risk Assessment for 2008/9 was carried out. Campaigns are moving to a two-year cycle, giving more time for implementation and follow-up activities. They will also make use of a new financial support model.

The Safe Start summit, held in March 2007 in Bilbao, was the closing event of the 2006 'Safe Start' campaign, dedicated to young people, and to ensuring that they have a safe and healthy start to working life. The

summit brought EU policymakers, social partners and leading safety and health experts together to discuss the issues raised by the campaign. The European Good Practice Awards 2006 were also presented at the event.

2007 also saw the publication of the evaluation of EU-OSHA's 2005 campaign, 'Stop that Noise'. The campaign performed well against all key evaluation criteria.

The second and final round of the Healthy Workplace Initiative took place in 2007. This is a campaign that provides employers and employees in small and medium-sized enterprises, especially in the new EU Member States and the Candidate countries, with information on making the work environment safer, healthier and more productive.

A report on new and emerging biological risks was produced by the European Risk Observatory (ERO), which is an integral part of EU-OSHA. The report aims to establish the state of knowledge in this fast-changing area, and was followed by a workshop in June 2007, which provided an opportunity for experts and policy makers to share knowledge and experience.

ERO also issued a report on emerging psychosocial risks, which examines the connections between changes in the world of work and increased levels of stress and deterioration of mental and physical health.

In 2007 contracts were signed to carry out the European Survey of Enterprises on New and Emerging Risks (ESENER), which will provide real-time data on work to tackle psychosocial risks. The survey will identify what is currently being done, in both private and public sector workplaces.

EU-OSHA participated in the ERA-NET project, which aims at creating a common European approach to research on new and emerging risks in the workplace.

Furthermore, ERO made available the most recent research information on nanotechnologies and their possible impact in the workplace, and worked on a report on occupational skin exposure and work-related skin diseases. This report analyses Member

States' policies and practices in this area, and includes guidelines and recommendations.

The Risk Observatory's 2007 report 'OSH in figures: Young workers – facts and figures' was part of the ongoing 'OSH in figures' project, which aims to provide an evidence base for prevention and the identification of trends in health and safety.

EU-OSHA's literature study on migrant workers provides an overview of the most important health and safety issues affecting this particular group of workers.

A report and other information materials were prepared during 2007 on workers in the hotel, restaurant and catering (HORECA) sector, and some of the particular risks that they face. A workshop, entitled 'Working safely in a multicultural HORECA sector', was held in Bilbao in February 2007. Moreover, the Agency developed a range of material on cleaning workers and related safety and health issues.

Information material was also produced that examines the business case for good safety and health, and the connection between good health and safety and economic success both for individual businesses and national economies.

EU-OSHA also prepared a case studies report on making OSH an integral part of university level education.

Developments on the website in 2007 included a benchmarking exercise, assessing the site in terms of usability, accessibility, security etc. An online survey was carried out among website users. The online awareness-raising campaign has also continued, using Google AdWords. New web services were introduced, such as information alerts, a network search tool and RSS news feeds. More Single Entry Points were added to the site, gathering all available information on particular OSH issues.

Among the many events that EU-OSHA participated in throughout the year was OSH Cinema, a series of film events, including a screening of 'Il gioco della vita' ('The game of life') which won the 2006 'Safe Start' Campaign's video competition.

2008 will see a new approach to campaigning, with a move to a two-year cycle, starting with the Risk

Assessment campaign (2008-2009). By extending the European campaign to run over a two-year period, we allow more time for preparation and follow-up, and to develop partnerships with EU-level stakeholders and other potential campaign partners.

In 2008, EU-OSHA will continue to work on developing methodologies for forecasting new and emerging risks, helping to make forecasting more systematic. The results of two major projects on carcinogens and occupational cancer are due to be published in 2008, as is the last in the series of four

flagship reports on new and emerging risks, focusing on chemical risks.

Work will be carried out on OSH issues in the road transport sector, and the EU-OSHA will prepare 'OSH and Economic Performance: A Report on Economic Incentives', which is due to be published in 2009. This report will look at incentives that can be offered, through lower accident insurance premiums or tax rates, better banking conditions such as lower interest rates, or state subsidies, to encourage good OSH performance.

**OUR GROWING EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL NETWORK
IS A STRONG BASE TO BUILD ON**

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Key Activities in 2007

Building the links – Promoting global network partnership

CLOSER LINKS BETWEEN THE AGENCY AND EUROPEAN NETWORKS

Working through its networks of partners, in Europe and around the world, is a key aspect of what the Agency does. And as part of its efforts to strengthen this co-operation, in 2007 the Agency began a series of regular meetings with the national focal points (FOPs) – usually the national safety and health authorities in each Member State – and the bodies that make up their national networks: representatives of government, employers' organisations, workers' organisations and others.

EU-OSHA's Director, Dr Jukka Takala, visited seven countries – the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Poland, the Netherlands, Ireland and the Czech Republic.

The Agency helped to establish national focal points in Albania, Serbia, Montenegro and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia through CARDS, a co-operation programme between the European Union and the Western Balkans.

Under the PHARE IV programme, activities continued in 2007 to support Croatia and Turkey as they harmonise their efforts in safety and health with those of other European countries. 2007 also saw Bulgaria and Romania become full EU Member States – the Agency's pre-Accession programmes have helped them to become fully involved with Europe-wide activities in health and safety.

In terms of strengthening the Agency's European institutional partnerships, 2007 saw the preparation of a declaration of intention

between the Agency and DG Enterprise, agreeing to co-operate on issues of occupational safety and health in the frame of the new Enterprise Europe Network (comprising the former Euro Info Centres), which brings together a wide range of organisations that provide business support in the EU.

A+A JOINT NETWORK SESSION

Under the title 'OSH networks at work – Network meets Network,' EU-OSHA organised a joint network session during Europe's biggest event in occupational safety and health - the A+A trade show and international congress in Düsseldorf, 18 – 21 September 2007.



EU-OSHA stand at A+A, Düsseldorf.

The objective was to enable different OSH networks to develop a better understanding of each other's objectives, activities and work programmes, and so create synergies and strengthen networking at the international, European and national levels. Eleven European and international OSH networks, including EU-OSHA's focal point network, ILO CIS centre network, ENETOSH, ENSHPO, INSHPO, EUROSHNET, ENWHP, the European Forum of Insurances against Accidents at Work and Occupational Diseases, WHO Collaborating Centres, IALI, and ISSA's Special Commission on Prevention, presented their work to more than 130 participants. The overall meeting evaluation was very positive, and a further meeting is planned for A+A 2009.

EXTENSION OF GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

In 2007, EU-OSHA continued its work to strengthen collaboration with its international partners, to exchange experience and examples of good practice, and to find synergies in campaigning and awareness-raising activities. Topics of particular interest in terms of collaboration included promotion of OSH strategies, risk assessment, reaching out to SMEs and working on new and emerging risks.

EU-OSHA hosted delegations from the US, Singapore, South Korea, Japan and Hong Kong, and participated in a number of international events, including the fifth European meeting of the WHO Collaborating Centres in Occupational Health, the annual conference of the Northern Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being, and the annual meeting of the Baltic Sea Network.

Further afield, the Agency was also present at the fifth joint conference on OSH co-operation between the United States and the European Union, which was held from 7-9 November 2007 in Cascais, Portugal. Topics for discussion included emergency preparedness and worker safety and health, health and safety education and training, new and emerging OSH issues, and strategic approaches to OSH.

EXTERNAL EVALUATION

2007 saw the publication of an external evaluation of the Agency, which focuses especially on the way that the Agency works with its focal point network: this follows-up on the evaluation carried out in 2001. An action plan was prepared which takes the conclusions and recommendations of that earlier evaluation into account. Our Bureau is monitoring progress of the action plan and by the time of writing we have nearly completed its implementation.

The external evaluation was carried out by the Centre for Strategy and Evaluation Services (CSES) in 2006/07. Its objectives were to look at the role of the FOPs and their contribution to the work of the Agency – it was not an overall evaluation of the Agency itself. In particular, the purpose of the evaluation was to assess the extent to which the FOP network has met the objectives set out in the document 'Preparing for Enlargement: Proposal for a Second Generation Agency Network'.

As with any evaluation, by examining past experience and achievements we will be better able to define future priorities. The results of the evaluation are intended to help the Agency and its Governing Board/Bureau to decide on the future organisation of the FOP network – including our role in supporting its work – so as to maximise its efficiency and effectiveness.

The evaluation involved wide-ranging research, including face-to-face interviews with Governing Board Members, Commission officials, all EU25 National FOPs, and many network partners. In addition, a number of surveys were undertaken covering Board Members, FOPs, network partners and end users of the Agency's products and services. The survey of end users elicited a response from 771 organisations and individuals. Last but not least, other EU-supported agencies were interviewed to enable some aspects of EU-OSHA's activities and organisation to be compared.

Overall, it is clear that the Agency is very highly regarded as a source of information in Europe on OSH issues. Since its establishment, EU-OSHA has worked hard to raise the profile of OSH in EU and national policies, and to promote good practice in Europe's workplaces.

The feedback from the evaluation is generally positive with regard to the types of activities promoted by the Agency and their relevance to target groups, the way in which activities are delivered and the impacts they achieve.

The FOPs and their networks have played a very important role in helping the Agency reach its objectives. The research suggests that following EU enlargement, it has become more difficult in many respects to maintain a close relationship with the FOP network. But there are a number of practical steps that can be taken to ensure that these relationships are strengthened. Capacity-

building in the newest Member States remains a key priority, and consideration needs to be given to the appropriate mix of delivery methods that EU-OSHA uses in disseminating information. With EU-OSHA's staff resources being spread across the growing number of EU Member States, there is a need to develop ways of working more effectively, with centralised activities combined with national efforts to strengthen the FOP networks and to work through them to achieve the Agency's objectives.

In all, the evaluation does not point to the need for fundamental changes to the Agency's objectives or way of working. The Agency has an important role to play in reinforcing and adding credibility to OSH promotion nationally, in creating economies of scale, in capacity-building and involving stakeholders, and in improving understanding of OSH issues by adding a European dimension to the picture at a national level. What is needed is more a question of fine-tuning certain of the Agency's operations.

For the full report see:

http://osha.europa.eu/publications/evaluation_reports/evaluation_report_2006.pdf

ECAP

In 2007, the Agency tested a new financial support model for the FOPs. Called the European Campaign Assistance Package (ECAP), it represents a shift from the previous grant-based model to one based on the supply of services through the Agency's contractors. The advantages of the new model are that the FOPs and the Agency will have more time for network-based campaigning and to engage in joint activities with stakeholders. It will also give a greater coherence to campaigns at the European level (in 'look and feel'), while still ensuring flexibility and room for adaptation to specific national contexts.

LIGHTEN THE LOAD – OUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FOCUSED ON MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS



© EU-OSHA

NAPO, a popular animated cartoon character, has become a mainstay of Agency campaigns

Communicating knowledge – Your link to health and safety at work

EUROPEAN CAMPAIGN ON MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS, 'LIGHTEN THE LOAD'

Introduction

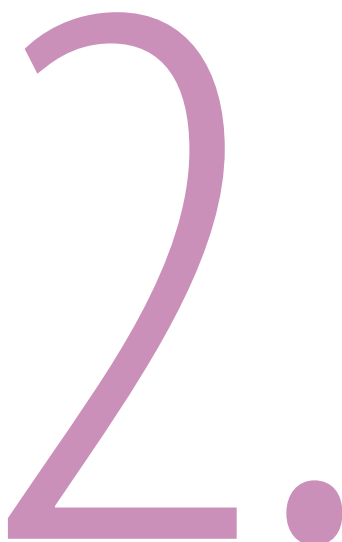
The Agency's highly successful campaign for 2007 was called 'Lighten the Load', addressing the problem of musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs). The campaign emphasised the importance of an integrated, well-rounded management approach, and provided workers and employers with information and examples of good practice.

The campaign built on the first Agency European Week for Safety and Health at Work in 2000, 'Turn your back on MSDs'. It aimed to raise awareness of the risks to workers from MSDs, provide information, and encourage workplace improvements to be made.

The campaign was publicised through a European partner meeting in Brussels, encouraging organisations to become Partners or Ambassadors for the campaign, a media launch in the European Commission, together with a supporting exhibition, and press events in the different Member States. Much of the campaign material was translated into the 22 Community languages, and through network partnerships and the activities of the focal points, far more countries were involved than just the 27 Member States. National activities organised by the FOPs included seminars and workshops, and radio and TV campaigns.

Background

MSDs are a group of painful disorders which include low back pain, joint injuries and a variety of repetitive strain injuries. Affecting millions of workers, MSDs are the most common work-related health problem in Europe. The most affected sectors are agriculture and construction. In the worst cases, workers are left with a permanent disability, and the cost of MSDs to workers, employers and governments is huge: in some Member States, 40% of the costs of workers' compensation are due to MSDs, and up to 1.6% of gross domestic product (GDP) is lost because of them. MSDs also affect other aspects of workers' health. Many of the problems associated with MSDs can



be prevented, however, or at least greatly reduced, through concerted action in the workplace.

European Launch Event

The 'Lighten the Load' campaign was launched in Brussels on 4th June 2007 with the support of the EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities Vladimír Špidla, and Rudolf Anzinger, State Secretary at the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, who was representing the German EU Presidency. There was close co-operation between the Agency and the European Commission throughout. The Commission promoted the campaign via its websites, as well as raising the MSDs issue in its newsletters and disseminating campaign messages through its networks.



Jukka Takala, Director EU-OSHA, Vladimír Špidla, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Rudolf Anzinger, German State Secretary for Employment and Social Affairs.

Combating MSDs

First, employers, employees and governments need to work together to help make changes in the workplace that can reduce the risk of MSDs. They should also provide information and training on the risks of accidents and ill health, and on correct handling techniques. Ergonomic assessments, changes to equipment and job rotation can also lead to significant reductions in staff sickness absence, and increases in productivity. Besides, employee involvement is essential when dealing with any workplace hazard.

Secondly, any actions should address the whole load on the body, which covers all the stresses and strains that are placed on it, rather than just those in a certain area. Environmental factors also need to be

considered such as cold working conditions, as well as the actual load being carried.

Thirdly, employers need to rehabilitate employees with MSDs and help them return to work. This special focus on rehabilitation and reintegration, as well as on prevention of MSDs, was a new feature of 'Lighten the Load', compared to the 2000 campaign.

The European Week

The 'Lighten the Load' campaign culminated in the European Week for Safety and Health at Work from 22 to 26 October 2007, with a broad range of activities and events across Europe.

Organisations and individuals were also encouraged to engage with the campaign through a prize draw to win a trip to the closing event of the campaign in Bilbao. People could enter by letting the Agency know what they did during the campaign, and downloading their own personalised Certificate of Participation. These certificates, which acknowledge action that has already been taken, replace the Charters of previous campaigns, which recognised the pledges of organisations to be involved in future activities. Over 500 certificates were issued during the campaign – a measure of its success.

The campaign was targeted primarily at the workplace level. It involved a wide range of information and promotion material, including factsheets, and reports on MSDs, including a policy overview, literature review and case studies, and MSD prevention.

A dedicated European Week 2007 website made available a comprehensive information pack, as well as press releases, while a new MSD Single Entry Point on the website centralises all available information on the topic. Campaign materials also included a DVD on MSDs featuring the popular cartoon character, Napo.

To support the campaign, the Agency also published the 'Lighten the Load' magazine in four languages, drawing attention to the extent of the problem of MSDs across Europe. The magazine gives examples of good practice in dealing with MSDs in the workplace, showing how education and information can help combat the problem.



European Week activities

A new publication, 'Work-related musculoskeletal disorders: Back to work report', launched to coincide with the European Week, focused on the retention, reintegration and rehabilitation of workers with MSDs. While prevention is the best method of tackling MSDs, for workers who are already suffering from them the challenge is to help them to stay working and, if necessary, reintegrate them into the workplace.

The report evaluates the effectiveness of taking action in the workplace and gives an overview of European and international policy initiatives to retain, reintegrate and rehabilitate workers with MSDs.

The campaign also featured Good Practice Awards, which recognise organisations that have made outstanding and innovative contributions to tackling MSDs. The awards promote and encourage practical solutions in workplaces and help to share this information around Europe. The Agency announced the winners at the campaign's closing event in Bilbao in February 2008.

In 2007, the Agency supported the efforts of SLIC, the Senior Labour Inspectors Committee, to reduce the risks of manual handling, and in turn 'Lighten the Load' was promoted during the SLIC campaign. The Agency also provided input to the new guide on the manual handling of gypsum products, published in October 2007 by Eurogypsum, the association of plaster-board users.

Press releases were localised and translated for use in the different Member States, together with updated and revised local press lists and nationally-adapted articles and animations on MSDs.

The Agency had over 40 partners for 'Lighten the Load', compared to 18 for the 2006 campaign.

And for the first time, Agency information on the 'Lighten the Load' campaign featured on the general European Union website.

For more information on 'Lighten the Load', please see: <http://ew2007.osha.europa.eu/>

HEALTHY WORKPLACE INITIATIVE

2007 saw the second and final round of the Healthy Workplace Initiative (HWI), which is a campaign aimed at providing both employers and employees in small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) with easy access to information on improving their business environment by making it safer, healthier and more productive.

The campaign had a clear and direct message: that safety and health is everyone's concern, and that it's good for business.

Campaign activities were localised in the various participating countries between 19 April and 30 November 2007: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Turkey. Croatia and Turkey were participating for the first time.

Targeted literature, including a brochure on OSH Essentials and a guide to risk assessment in business, was provided through the FOPs and Euro Info Centres Network (EICs). The Risk Assessment Tool developed by the Agency, meanwhile, enables employers and employees to assess their work

environment for risks associated with their specific sector, and provides advice and support in making improvements.

During the two years of the HWI 65 seminars were organised by the Agency and its FOP network and promoted by the EICs, now known as the Enterprise Europe Network in the fourteen participating countries. These seminars provided an opportunity for more than 3,000 participants to hear about the latest issues around particular topics in OSH, and for employers and employees to hear from their counterparts in other organisations, who have successfully implemented improvements in safety and health, and made their businesses more productive by doing so.

The Agency has commissioned an external evaluation of the Healthy Workplace Initiative, with the final results being made available in September 2008. They will tell us more about the impact of the campaign on SMEs in the participating countries.

For more information on HWI, please see:
<http://hwi.osha.europa.eu/>

CLOSING EVENT OF 'SAFE START' CAMPAIGN FOR YOUNG WORKERS

The Safe Start Summit, held in March 2007 in Bilbao, was the culmination of the 2006 'Safe Start' campaign, which was dedicated to ensuring that

young people have a safe and healthy start to their working lives. The campaign involved organisations and individuals in 25 EU Member States, as well as EFTA and Candidate countries.

The summit, jointly organised by the Agency and the German Presidency of the European Union, brought EU policymakers, social partners and leading safety and health experts together to discuss the issues raised by the campaign. Delegates heard that across Europe, 18 to 24-year-olds are at least 50% more likely to be injured in the workplace than more experienced workers, and that behind the statistics are harrowing stories, of young people having to live with the consequences of accidents and damaged health for the rest of their lives, or dying when they had so much of their lives still ahead of them. They had the opportunity to listen to innovative activities to stem the problem and discuss a common way forward in three workshops.

The event also saw the presentation of the European Good Practice Awards 2006, which acknowledged positive contributions to the occupational safety and health of young people. Eight winners received their awards, including the organisers of an awareness programme for risk prevention in schools in Spain, and the designers of a passport to occupational safety skills in Finland, online and web-based initiatives in the UK, Poland and Denmark, a telephone helpline in Sweden, and a training programme for agricultural students in the Netherlands. A number of other initiatives were also commended.

This kind of outreach has been a feature of the campaign throughout – with quizzes and competitions for local schools, for example, organised by the focal points – all helping to engage stakeholders, including young people themselves.

Presentations were also made by three students from the Istituto Técnico Industriale Statale 'Nullo Baldini' in Ravenna, Italy. Their short film 'Il gioco della vita' ('The game of life') was awarded the title of 'Safe Start European Young Film Maker of the Year', with three runners-up from



Jukka Takala, Director EU-OSHA, young participants in the «Safe start» campaign and NAPO.

Denmark, France and Poland. These films were also featured on the YouTube website.

<http://ew2006.osha.europa.eu/awards/video>

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=eu-osha&search_type=&search=Search

For more information on 'Safe Start', please see: <http://ew2006.osha.europa.eu/>

CAMPAIGN EVALUATION

2007 also saw the publication of the evaluation of the Agency's 2005 campaign, 'Stop that Noise'. Overall, the 2005 campaign was found to have been successful in achieving its basic aims, and in some respects was more successful than earlier campaigns. The campaign performed well against all key evaluation criteria.

The 2005 evaluation was taken into account in the decision to move to a two-year campaigning model: see 'the outlook for 2008'.

http://osha.europa.eu/publications/evaluation_reports/EW05_final_report.pdf

WEB DEVELOPMENT

A benchmarking exercise was carried out, assessing the Agency site against 216 web requirements such as usability, accessibility, security, architecture and design, and comparing it to ten websites in similar sectors and with similar audiences. The EU-OSHA website performed satisfactorily on 75% of these requirements, achieving top positions in most aspects. This exercise gives us the opportunity to identify aspects of the site that can be improved.

Furthermore, 2007 saw a contract being signed for an evaluation project which enables users to provide feedback on the Agency's online services, and to suggest improvements to the website tools.

Within this framework an online survey was carried out of EU-OSHA website users and OSHmail subscribers in order to measure the impact of online information and communication activities, and provide feedback on users' satisfaction with the site and expectations of it. The overall satisfaction is

now higher than in 2005, when the first survey was carried out.

Following this analysis further improvement will be made to the site in order to reach more visitors and satisfy our existing audience. As part of our on-going dialogue with our web users, a user panel will be organised to provide face-to-face feedback from more than 3,000 volunteers.

Our online awareness-raising campaign has also continued. After an initial testing phase, Google AdWords was found to be the most efficient means of promoting the Agency website. Google is the most-used search engine worldwide and through its AdWords programme advertisements can be placed for specific keyword searches. When a user clicks on the ad triggered by the search, a link will be made with the Agency website. Initial feedback shows that within four months, more than five million advertisements were shown on the search engine site and over 150,000 new visitors were attracted by our online information.

In 2007, the Agency developed new web services to meet users' information needs: an alert service enables users to be informed as soon as information on various topics is updated, a network search tool gathers results from more than 30 Agency and partners' websites in a single search, and an RSS news feed disseminates the Agency's latest news items and publications as soon as they are available. The web team also continues to make the site more accessible and useful. A system was introduced whereby access keys allow visitors to use their keyboards to surf the website, in line with international recommendations on accessibility.

Many more Single Entry Points, gathering all available information on a special OSH issue, were also added to the site in 2007, thus providing visitors with quicker and easier access to online information on OSH.

All this, combined with ongoing promotion of the Agency website, with a newly-designed web portal, and increasing numbers of subscribers to the news digest service, has resulted in the site attracting more than two million visitors in 2007, representing a 100% increase in comparison to 2006.

Visit us at: <http://osha.europa.eu/>

PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS

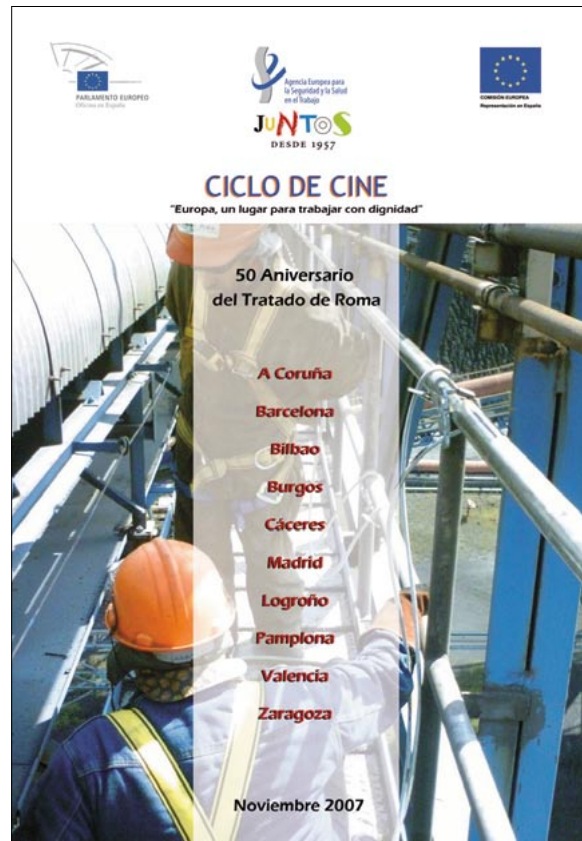
Publications

In 2007, the Agency continued with its programme of publications, helping to bring in-depth and topical OSH information to a wide range of audiences across Europe. Among many other types of publication, four major reports were produced: 'A Safe Start for Young Workers in Practice', 'Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders: Back to Work', 'An Expert Forecast on Emerging Biological Risks Related to Occupational Safety and Health', and 'An Expert Forecast on Emerging Psychosocial Risks Related to Occupational Safety and Health'. More than two million copies of publications supporting the 'Lighten the Load' campaign were also produced.

Events

Among the many events that the Agency participated in throughout the year was OSH Cinema, a series of film events in ten Spanish cities that was organised together with the Spanish representations of the European Parliament and the European Commission, and that commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome. Under the motto 'Europe, a place to work in dignity', several films were shown for free relating to occupational safety and health.

Six European Cinema Festival award-winners were shown: 'The Navigators', 'Sleeping Luck', 'Dancer in the Dark', 'Breaking the Waves', 'Human Resources', and 'Time Out'. In addition, the short film 'Il gioco della vita' ('The game of life') was shown, after it won the video competition that was part of the 2006 'Safe Start' Campaign on young workers. In total,



OSH Cinema involved more than 1,500 participants, most of them young people from professional training centres, who benefited from a selection of films and useful information related to occupational safety and health.

As well as organising a networking session and exhibition stand at the A+A show in Düsseldorf, the Agency was also present at the general assembly of the ETUC in Seville. The EU-OSHA stand was visited by many representatives of Trade Unions across Europe.



NEW AND EMERGING WORKPLACE RISKS ARE
AT THE CENTRE OF OUR ATTENTION

© EU audiovisual service

Developing knowledge – Supporting policy-making and implementation

3.

RESEARCH INTO NEW AND EMERGING RISKS

A series of flagship reports on new and emerging risks has been produced by the European Risk Observatory (ERO), an integral part of EU-OSHA. Following the report on emerging physical risks, issued in 2006, emerging biological and psychosocial risks have been explored in expert forecasts published in 2007. Together with the literature reviews also published by the ERO, these reports aim to establish the state of knowledge in these fast-changing areas.

The last in this series, a report on emerging chemical risks, will be available in 2008. The publication of these reports is only the first

step in an on-going process of debate and consolidation that forms part of the work programme of the Agency.

Biological risks

Biological risks are often underestimated. The challenge is to identify them as quickly as they appear, to analyse the effects they might have on people's health, and to establish policies and procedures to minimise their spread.

Farmers, healthcare workers or people in evolving industries such as waste treatment are particularly affected. Of particular concern are communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, dengue or avian flu.

About 320,000 workers worldwide die every year of communicable diseases, some 5,000 in the EU. Given the speed and volume of international traffic and trade, pathogens may spread around the globe within a few hours and start a new pandemic.

Despite the fact that legislation already exists in Europe that seeks to control these diseases, knowledge is still limited and in many workplaces biological risks are poorly assessed.



© Courtesy of European Commission.

The report on emerging biological risks was followed by a workshop in June 2007 in Brussels, that provided an opportunity to share knowledge in this important area, and involved experts and the social partners, as well as policymakers from a number of European Commission Directorates General, e.g. DG Employment and DG Environment.

Outcomes from the workshop included a broad agreement that the main issue in this area is preparedness. The report emphasises the importance of taking a global and multidisciplinary approach involving occupational safety and health, public health, environmental protection and food safety.

The Agency was asked to establish a forum in which these issues can be discussed regularly, and where experts can meet who are involved in different disciplines that have a bearing on the issue.

http://riskobservatory.osha.europa.eu/risks/forecasts/biological_risks/

Psychosocial risks

Significant changes which are taking place in the world of work may result in emerging psychosocial risks related to occupational safety and health. These risks are linked to the way work is designed, organised and managed, to the economic and social context of work, and to technical or organisational change. It results in increased levels of stress and can lead to serious deterioration of mental and physical health. 22 % of workers from the 27 Member States of the European Union believe that their health is at risk because of work-related stress, while in 2002 the annual economic cost of work-related stress in the EU15 was estimated at EUR 20,000 million.

The report analyses the connections between psychosocial risks and new forms of employment contracts, with workers on precarious contracts tending to carry out the most hazardous jobs, work in poorer conditions and receive less OSH training. Job insecurity, an ageing workforce, work intensification, emotional demands at work, violence and bullying, conflict between the demands of work and private life, and variable or unpredictable working hours can all lead to stress and other psychosocial risks.

The findings of the report will be discussed in a workshop dedicated to psychosocial risks and their implications in April 2008, which will also explore



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concrete, practical ways to tackle the problem, as well as to stimulate research in the EU related to it.

http://riskobservatory.osha.europa.eu/riskob/risks/forecasts/psychosocial_risks/index_html

EUROPEAN SURVEY OF ENTERPRISES ON NEW AND EMERGING RISKS (ESENER)

2007 saw the signing of the contract to carry out an enterprise survey on psychosocial risks, which will provide real-time data in this important area from both managers and employees. The survey will measure not so much the extent of the problem – in relation to work-related stress for example – as what is being done in private and public sector workplaces to tackle it. This is one of many ways in which the Agency can help to achieve the objectives set out in the new Community Strategy 2007-2012, as it will provide detailed and up-to-date information on what is needed for better prevention of psychosocial risks from precisely those who are best placed to know – people in real workplaces.

The ESENER covers all 27 EU Member States as well as some EFTA and Candidate countries. It will involve

interviewing managers and workers, and looking at how psychosocial risks are currently being managed in practice. What are the key drivers in preventing psychosocial risks, and what are the main barriers to it? What can we in the EU do to support managers and workers in dealing with this problem? The aim of the survey is to provide useful conclusions both for the Agency and for national organisations which deal with these topics.

The survey covers enterprises in both the public and private sectors. In terms of survey methodology, it is a particular challenge to cover the public sector, but it is important to do so because it includes large numbers of workers in sectors such as healthcare and education, which are particularly affected by psychosocial risks.

The kick-off meeting for the ESENER was held late in 2007, and the survey proposals were also presented to the Employment Committee at the European Parliament. Questionnaire design and translation will be completed in 2008, fieldwork will be carried out in early 2009, and the first results should be presented also in 2009. The survey will be carried out in close co-operation with Eurofound, which is also running an enterprise survey.

SKIN DISEASES

In 2007, the Agency also worked on a new report on occupational skin exposure and work-related skin diseases, which is due to be published in 2008. The report analyses Member States' policies and practices in recognising, reporting, assessing and controlling dermal exposure and skin diseases in the EU Member States, and includes guidelines and recommendations, along with examples of occupations in which workers are at particular risk and suggestions of methods for reducing skin exposure.

Skin diseases account for more than 7% of all occupational illnesses in Europe, and are one of the most important emerging risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological substances. The level of exposure and frequency of skin diseases vary very much by country and industry sector. Over 34% of all cases are seen in the manufacturing sector, followed by construction with 14.2% and health and social work with 9.5%.

OSH IN FIGURES

Since 2004, the Agency has been running a large project which aims to provide an evidence base for OSH prevention. By combining statistics and other data from national and European sources, the project aims to describe major OSH issues and trends, work-related health effects or exposures, and the situation of specific groups of workers, as well as providing an OSH profile of selected sectors. The European Risk Observatory's 'OSH in figures' publications supported the European Week campaigns in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

In 2007, the report 'OSH in figures: Young workers – facts and figures' focused on one of the vulnerable groups which the newly published European OSH strategy asks the Agency's Risk Observatory to address, to 'help to pinpoint and monitor trends and identify major issues for prevention'.

<http://osha.europa.eu/publications/reports/7606507>

NANOTECHNOLOGIES

The rapid growth of nanotechnology is outstripping our understanding and knowledge of the occupational health risks associated with manufacturing and using nanomaterials. To support the OSH community, the Agency's Risk Observatory has made available the most recent research information on nanotechnologies and possible impacts in workplaces. An in-depth literature survey in 2008 will ensure that we keep track of the most recent developments.

MIGRANT WORKERS

The literature study on migrant workers that the Agency published in 2007 provides an overview of the most important health and safety issues affecting this particular group of workers.

Migrants are a very heterogeneous group, and they include both those who move within the EU27 and those who come from outside. But migrant workers are often over-represented in jobs that are 'dirty, dangerous and demanding', and in high-risk sectors such as agriculture, construction, healthcare and transport. Their work is often characterised by uncertainty, poor working conditions and low

wages: they face longer working hours, and more physically demanding and monotonous work.

Migrant workers also report being subject to harassment more frequently than their native counterparts, which, coupled with their more unfavourable working conditions, helps to explain their higher rates of stress and burnout. Migrant workers face a very particular set of safety and health-related problems, therefore, with a greater risk of accidents at work.

These OSH concerns are increased by the status of many migrants as new workers, which may place them at added risk due to their relatively short period of work in their respective host countries and their limited knowledge of the safety and health systems in place. Their language skills may be poor, and it may be more difficult for them to go to the authorities when there is a problem. The Agency will take up this issue further, for example by promoting good practice in keeping migrant workers safe.

http://osha.europa.eu/priority_groups/migrant_workers/migrantworkers.pdf

FOSTERING OSH RESEARCH CO-ORDINATION AT EU LEVEL

The Agency, through its European Risk Observatory, participates in an ERA-NET project entitled '*New and Emerging Risks in Occupational Safety and Health - Anticipating and dealing with change in the workplace through coordination of OSH risk research*' (NEW OSH ERA). This project aims at building a European dimension in research on new and emerging risks in the workplace by rationalising and pooling resources.

The Agency's role in the project includes: promoting the setting of priorities for a future joint OSH research programme on new and emerging risks, contributing to the strategic planning consultation process, facilitating communication between the NEW OSH ERA Consortium and EU policy-makers and social partners, and disseminating the results. The tasks in 2007 included, amongst others, publishing two issues of the NEW OSH ERA Newsletter, maintenance of the project's website (<http://www.newoshera.eu>), developing and consulting on the Strategic Planning paper, and organising a stakeholder workshop.

HORECA

The hotel, restaurant and catering sector (HORECA) was another focus of Agency attention. A report prepared during 2007, and due to be published in 2008, sets out the project's key findings, together with case studies on the protection of workers in the HORECA sector. A factsheet summarising the report has also been produced in 22 languages, while a series of online factsheets (e-facts) gives an overview of the sector, together with information on accident prevention, and some of the risks prevalent in the HORECA sector, from MSDs, psychosocial issues, dangerous substances and hot environments, for example. A Single Entry Point was also added to the Agency website in 2007, providing an overview of the health and safety issues associated with the sector.

This sector has traditionally seen a high percentage of foreign workers, with rates ranging between 6 and 14%, accounting for approximately half a million non-national workers out of 7.8 million employees in the EU Member States. These migrant workers often have few vocational qualifications and poor language skills. And working conditions in the sector are often poor, exposing workers to many hazards that may damage their health, including musculoskeletal disorders, and dermatological and respiratory problems.

A workshop, entitled 'Working safely in a multicultural HORECA sector', was held in Bilbao in February 2007, with the aim of identifying the main occupational safety and health problems of the multicultural workforce that is typical of hotels and catering.

The objectives of the workshop were to identify the main OSH-related problems of the sector's



multicultural workforce, before moving on to identify good practice and possible approaches to solving the problems, which may themselves guide future Agency work in this area.

CLEANING WORKERS

In 2007, the Agency also developed material providing information on cleaning workers, and the particular safety and health problems affecting them.

This material in preparation consists of a large report, identifying success factors in the prevention of harm to cleaning workers, a literature review of the risks that cleaning workers face, a web feature including data from Member States and articles by the Agency on key hazards and risks, and a PowerPoint presentation for use in the training of procurement officers. Six online factsheets on cleaning workers have also been prepared, and are due to be published in 2008.

OSH AND ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

In 2007, the Agency published two factsheets, one dealing with the micro-economic level, the other with the macro-economic, examining the business case for good safety and health, and the connection between a good record in health and safety and economic success both for individual businesses and national economies. A Single Entry Point now available on the Agency website also provides easy access to information on this subject.

MAINSTREAMING OSH INTO EDUCATION

Within its ongoing programme to exchange and share experience on mainstreaming OSH into education, during 2007 the Agency prepared a case studies report on mainstreaming OSH into university level education, which will be finalised in 2008. While the Agency has found that there is much activity to mainstream OSH at the compulsory schooling level, it is proving much more of a challenge to get it into the curriculum of university courses such as engineering, medical, design and business studies.

The Agency has continued to work closely with the European network on OSH in education training, ENETOSH.



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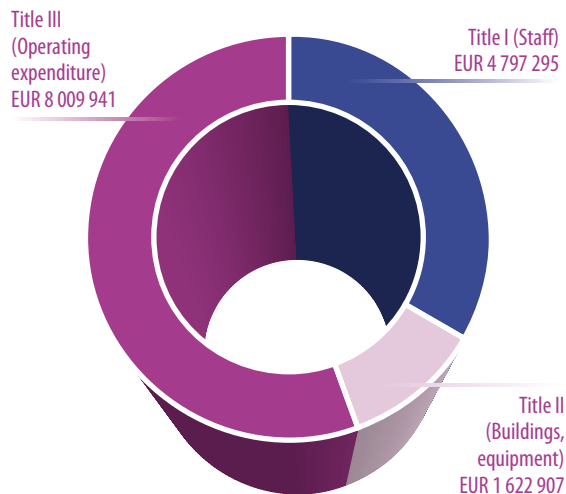
Administrative activities

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

The Agency's total budget for 2007 was approved and financed from the following contributions. All amounts are stated in Euro. Actual amounts are shown in comparison:

Sources of revenue	Budgeted	Actual revenue
European Community subsidy	14 000 000	13 000 000
Phare programme	213 460	168 460
Other subsidies and revenues	657 243	647 178
NEW OSH ERA	57 000	57 000
Total	14 927 703	13 872 638

Budgeted expenditure by title in 2007
was allocated as follows:



Title I (Staff)	4 797 295
Title II (Buildings, equipment)	1 622 907
Title III (Operating expenditure)	8 009 941
Subtotal	14 430 143
Earmarked activities	497 560
Total	14 927 703

Of the EUR 14,430,143 not earmarked and available in 2007, approximately 93 % was committed by the end of the year.

With regards to the earmarked activities, EUR 328,761 was paid.

The European Parliament considered discharge to the Agency for its 2005 budget at its meeting on 24 April 2007. In addition, the Court of Auditors' report for 2006 states that the transactions underlying the Agency's annual accounts, taken as a whole, are legal and regular.

INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

The functioning of the Internal Control System and the corrective measures were formally self-assessed in 2007, in order to comply with the baseline requirements.

For this purpose, the Agency used the tools provided by the Commission's Central Financial Service, which were:

>> *Self-assessment of the implementation of every Internal Control Standard (ICS):* the ICS recommendations were reviewed stage by stage in compliance with the 2007 baseline requirements. As a result, the Agency drew up an assessment report for each ICS identified, including an updated action plan, which was approved by the Management Group.

>> *Review of the efficiency of the Internal Control System:* the Agency's Staff and Management Group were required to fill in the iCAT (Internal Control Assessment Tool) self-assessment questionnaire.

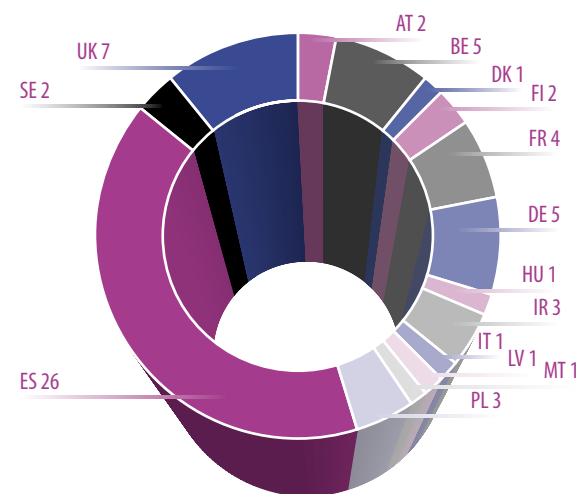
As a result, it can be concluded that the Internal Control System of the Agency is functioning well. Nevertheless, the Agency should carry out improvements according to the action plan, which is updated on the basis of the annual self-assessment and the Internal Audit Service's recommendations. From June 2007 onwards, the management group will review and discuss the action plan every three months. The Internal Control Co-coordinator will subsequently update the action plan with the outstanding actions.

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

One Temporary Agent, one Contract Agent and one Auxiliary Agent left the Agency in 2007. Seven new Temporary Agents were recruited during the same year. As of December 2007, the staff composition was as follows:

Category	Male	Female	Total
Temporary agents (AD)	13	6	19
Temporary agents (AST)	7	13	20
Contractual staff agents	1	12	13
Local staff agents	0	2	2
Auxiliary agents	4	1	5
Seconded national experts	2	3	5
Total	27	37	64

The distribution by nationality was as follows:



It is also relevant to note that during 2007 the Agency welcomed one new Seconded National Expert.

THE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

In 2007, the Health and Safety Committee provided health and safety inductions for new staff, liaised closely on the revision of the emergency plan with Mutualia, the Agency's occupational safety and health consultancy service, and conducted actions to improve occupational safety and health at the Agency.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

The main achievements, in addition to providing routine maintenance to the ICT infrastructure, included keeping the 3G OSHA website project on target, allowing its migration to the new platform in March 2008, and ensuring that the Agency is on board with respect to the important ICT framework contracts signed by the Directorate-General Informatics, which give the Agency access to high quality products and services at a competitive cost.

DOCUMENTATION

In 2007 Documentation Section provided the necessary procedures, rules and support to ensure an operational documentary circuit. During the year, Documentation made progress in daily operations such as:

- >> Registration of 10,481 incoming mail and outgoing mail records in Adonis.
- >> Management of the document workflow within the Agency.
- >> Management of paper archives that preserve the reliability and integrity of the Agency's documents over time.

- >> Management of information and document requests (books, periodicals, databases), performing the process of order, receipt, recording and storage.
- >> Development of the public access to the Agency's internal documents project.
- >> Update of the content of the Agency's intranet.

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

In addition to general support to the administration of the Agency, the Resource & Service Centre Unit was also involved in:

- >> Development of internal management systems, including procurement and contract management.
- >> Development of Internal Control Standards.
- >> Preparation of Amending Budget II for 2007 and Budget 2008.
- >> Preparation of Accounts 2006.
- >> Staff Implementing Rules, covering: the engagement and use of Contract Agents, appraisals according to article 43 of the Staff Regulations, reclassifications, training plans, and guides to appraisals.



Annexes

Annual Report 2007

ANNEX 1

Membership of the Governing Board (December 2007)

The Agency's Governing Board is made up of representatives of each of the 27 Member States' governments, employers' and employees' organisations, together with three representatives from the European Commission. In addition, four

observers are invited — two from the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions and one each from the ETUC and Business Europe.

GOVERNMENTS

Members	Country	Alternates
Mr Willy IMBRECHTS	Belgium	Mr Christian DENEVE
Mr Atanas KOLCHAKOV	Bulgaria	Mr Petar HADJISTOJKOV
Ms Daniela KUBÍČKOVÁ	Czech Republic	Ms Martina KAJÁNKOVÁ
Ms Charlotte SKJOLDAGER	Denmark	Ms Tove LOFT
Mr Ulrich RIESE	Germany	Mr Kai SCHÄFER
Mr Tiit KAADU	Estonia	Ms Egle KÄÄRATS
Mr Daniel KELLY	Ireland	Ms Mary DORGAN
Mr Trifon GINALAS	Greece	Mr Konstantinos PETINIS
Mr Mario GRAU-RIOS	Spain	Ms Pilar CASLA-BENITO
Ms Mireille JARRY	France	Mr Yvan DENION
Ms Lea BATTISTONI	Italy	Mr Mario ALVINO
Mr Leandros NICOLAIDES	Cyprus	Mr Marios KOURTELLIS
Mr Renārs LŪSIS	Latvia	Ms Jolanta KANČA
Ms Aldona SABAITIENĖ	Lithuania	Ms Aušra STANKIUVIENĖ
Mr Paul WEBER	Luxembourg	Mr Robert HUBERTY
Mr András BÉKÉS	Hungary	Ms Mária GROSZMANN
Mr Mark GAUCI	Malta	Mr Vincent ATTARD

Members	Country	Alternates
Mr R. FERINGA	Netherlands	Mr M.G. DEN HELD
Ms Gertrud BREINDL	Austria	Ms Eva-Elisabeth SZYMANSKI
Ms Danuta KORADECKA	Poland	Mr Daniel PODGÓRSKI
Mr Joao VEIGA E MOURA	Portugal	Mr Eduardo LEANDRO
Ms Daniela MARINESCU	Romania	Mr Dan Ion OPREA
Ms Tatjana PETRIČEK	Slovenia	Mr Jože HAUKO
Mr Miloš JANOUŠEK	Slovakia	Ms Elena PALIKOVÁ
Mr Mikko HURMALAINEN	Finland	Ms Anna-Liisa SUNDQUIST
Mr Bertil REMAEUS	Sweden	Ms Anna-Lena HULTGÅRD SANCINI
Ms Elizabeth HODKINSON	United Kingdom	Mr Malcolm DARVILL

EMPLOYERS

Members	Country	Alternates
Mr André PELEGRIN	Belgium	Mr Ir. Kris DE MEESTER
Awaiting new name	Bulgaria	Awaiting new name
Mr Karel PETRŽELKA	Czech Republic	Mr Miroslav BURIŠIN
Mr Thomas PHILBERT NIELSEN	Denmark	Ms Anne-Marie RØGE KRAG
Mr Thomas HOLTMANN	Germany	Mr Herbert BENDER
Ms Heddi LUTTERUS	Estonia	Mr Ilmar LINK
Mr Tony BRISCOE	Ireland	Mr Kevin ENRIGHT
Mr Pavlos KYRIAKONGONAS	Greece	Ms Natascha AVLONITOU
Ms Pilar IGLESIAS VALCARCE	Spain	Mr Pere TEIXIDÓ CAMPÁS
Ms Nathalie BUET	France	Mr Patrick LÉVY
Mr Luigi CASANO	Italy	Mr Marco FREGOSO
Mr. Lefteris KARYDIS	Cyprus	Ms Christina VASILA
Ms Liene VANCĀNE	Latvia	Mr Aleksandrs GRIGORJEVS
Ms Laura SIRVYDIENE	Lithuania	Mr Jonas GUZAVICIUS
Mr François ENGELS	Luxembourg	Mr Robert KANZ
Mr Géza BOMBERA	Hungary	Mr Antal SZABADKAI
Mr Joe DELIA	Malta	Mr John SCICLUNA
Mr Bob KONING	Netherlands	Mr Mario VAN MIERLO
Ms Christa SCHWENG	Austria	Mr Heinrich BRAUNER
Mr Jacek MECINA	Poland	Awaiting new name
Mr Marcelino PENA E COSTA	Portugal	Mr José COSTA TAVARES
Mr Ovidiu NICOLESCU	Romania	Mr Adrian IZVORANU

Members	Country	Alternates
Ms Nina GLOBOCNIK	Slovenia	Mr Igor ANTAUER
Mr Boris MICHALÍK	Slovakia	Awaiting new name
Mr Jyrki HOLLMÉN	Finland	Mr Rauno TOIVONEN
Ms Bodil MELLBLOM	Sweden	Awaiting new name
Ms Janet ASHERSON	United Kingdom	Mr Keith SEXTON

WORKERS

Members	Country	Alternates
Mr François PHILIPS	Belgium	Mr Herman FONCK
Mr Aleksandar ZAGOROV	Bulgaria	Mr Ivan KOKALOV
Mr Miroslav KOSINA	Czech Republic	Mr Jaroslav ZAVADIL
Mr Jan KAHR FREDERIKSEN	Denmark	Ms Lone JACOBSEN
Ms Marina SCHROEDER	Germany	Mr Maximilian ANGERMAIER
Mr Argo SOON	Estonia	Mr Ülo KRISTJUHAN
Mr Sylvester CRONIN	Ireland	Mr Fergus WHELAN
Mr Ioannis ADAMAKIS	Greece	Mr Ioannis KONSTANTINIDIS
Mr Fernando RODRIGO CENCILLO	Spain	Mr Dionis OÑA
Mr Gilles SEITZ	France	Mr Henri FOREST
Ms Cinzia FRASCHERI	Italy	Mr Diego ALHAIQUE
Mr Nicos ANDREOU	Cyprus	Ms Maria THEOCHARIDOU
Mr Ziedonis ANTAPSONS	Latvia	Mr Mārtiņš PUŽULS
Mr Gediminas MOZURA	Lithuania	Mr Rimantas KUMPIS
Mr Claude FORGET	Luxembourg	Mr Marcel GOEREND
Mr Károly GYÖRGY	Hungary	Mr Pál GERGELY
Mr Anthony CASARU	Malta	Mr Salv SAMMUT
Mr Willem VAN VEELLEN	Netherlands	Mr Arie WOLTMEIJER
Ms Julia LISCHKA	Austria	Ms Karin ZIMMERMANN
Ms Anita NOWAKOWSKA	Poland	Ms Iwona PAWLACZYK
Mr Armando DA COSTA FARIAS	Portugal	Awaiting new name
Mr Adrian COJOCARU	Romania	Ms Maria GHIMPAU
Ms Lučka BÖHM	Slovenia	Ms Spomenka GERZELJ
Mr Bohuslav BENDÍK	Slovakia	Mr Jaroslav BOBELA
Ms Raili PERIMÄKI	Finland	Mr Erkki AUVINEN
Mr Sven BERGSTRÖM	Sweden	Mr Börje SJÖHOLM
Mr Hugh ROBERTSON	United Kingdom	Ms Liz SNAPE

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Member	Alternate
Awaiting new name Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG	Awaiting new name
Mr J. R. BIOSCA DE SAGASTUY Vice-Chairperson Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG	Mr A. FUENTE MARTÍN Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG
Ms M. SPILIOPOULOU-KAPARIA Enterprise and Industry DG	Mr E. DUDAS Enterprise and Industry DG

OBSERVERS

Member	Alternate
Mr J. KARPPINEN European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions	Mr W. BUSCHAK European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
Ms M. LADÓ Chairperson of the Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions	
Ms R. SMITH Coordinator Business Europe	Ms V. CORMAN CNPF
Mr W. CERFEDA Coordinator ETUC	

ANNEX 2

Overview of how the Agency and its partners operate

The Agency's role is to act as a catalyst for collecting, analysing and disseminating information that will improve the state of occupational safety and health (OSH) in Europe.

Based in Bilbao, Spain, we work with many partners, including representatives from three key decision-making groups, trades unions, employers' associations and governments in the EU and in the EFTA/EEA countries (Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway, Switzerland) and candidate countries (Turkey and Croatia).

We also work with the European Commission and other EU institutions. With such a broad spectrum of partners, we not only ensure that we have a balanced and impartial perspective, but we can also draw on our collective expertise and knowledge in relation to OSH, in the EU and beyond.

We perform four main functions:

Identifying and developing strategic priorities

The Governing Board sets the Agency's goals and strategy, including the identification of priority OSH issues where further information or activity is required. The board is made up of Member State representatives from each of our three main stakeholder groups – governments, workers and employers – as well as European Commission representatives.

The bureau oversees the Agency's operational performance. It is composed of the chairperson and

three vice-chairs, along with one coordinator and one additional participant from each of the three interest groups mentioned above, and one additional Commission representative. The bureau meets four times a year.

The director is responsible for the day-to-day running of the Agency, including dealing with all financial, administrative and personnel matters.

Coordinating and disseminating information in conjunction with our partners

Focal points in more than 30 countries, including all 27 Member States, coordinate and disseminate information from the Agency within their national boundaries, as well as providing feedback and recommendations. As well as running national websites, they manage networks of national partners, which play a vital role in providing information and taking part in campaigning activities at Member State level. Typically our focal points are the lead OSH organisations in their respective countries, and act as the Agency's representatives at national level. There are also focal points in the EFTA/EEA, Candidate and potential candidate countries.

Providing expert advice on OSH issues, research methods and data collection

Expert groups provide advice on specific OSH issues identified by the board, and on how the necessary data collection and research should be carried out.

They also evaluate the data once it has been collected and analysed, prior to its dissemination, to provide quality control.

Collecting and analysing data

Topic centres link together consortia of national safety and health institutions to collect and analyse existing European, international and national data to support key areas of our work programme.

An amending regulation (EC No 1112/2005) of the Council's founding regulation was published in the Official Journal in July 2005. It introduced several changes to the Agency's governance following EU enlargement and strengthens the Agency's role supporting the implementation of EU strategies on health and safety at work.



Staff of the Agency in the Arriaga theatre, Bilbao.

ANNEX 3

Organisation Plan of the Agency (December 2007)

GOVERNING BOARD

BUREAU

DIRECTOR

Network Secretariat

Network management
Strategic planning
Legal adviser
Brussels liaison

Resource and Service Centre

Accounts
Documentation
Finance
General Services
Information technologies
Personnel

Communication & Promotion

Electronic communications
Campaigning: European Week and
Healthy Workplace Initiative
Promotion / media relations
Publications and events
Focal point subsidy

Working Environment Information Unit

Good Safety and health practice
Information collection
Information analysis
Information dissemination
European Campaign, Good Practice Awards

European Risk Observatory

Identification of new and emerging risks
Fostering research at EU level

ANNEX 4

Staff List by Unit (updated at 11 December 2007)

DIRECTORATE

Mr Jukka TAKALA (FI), Director
Ms Irune ZABALA (ES), Secretary

NETWORK SECRETARIAT

Mr Jesper BEJER (DK), Network Manager
Ms Brenda O'BRIEN (IE), Brussels Liaison Officer
Ms Elena ORTEGA (ES), Legal Advisor
Ms Sabine SOMMER (DE), Network Manager
Mr Hans KOTZAN (SE), Network Manager (SNE)
Ms Aisling O'NEILL (IE), Finance Officer
Ms Boglarka BOLA (HU), Assistant Project Manager
Mr Ingemar STERNERUP (SE), Assistant Network Manager - Phare Programme
Ms Dagmar RADLER (DE), Secretary
Ms Usua URIBE (ES), Secretary

COMMUNICATION AND PROMOTION UNIT

Mr Andrew J.A. SMITH (UK), Head of Unit
Mr Jochen MÜLLER (DE), Campaigns Manager
Mr Peter RIMMER (UK), European Week 2006 Project Manager
Mr Bruno THIEBAUD (FR), Communication Manager
Ms Paola PICCAROLO (IT), Assistant Information Manager
Ms Michelle KRUGER (IE), Web Editor - Assistant Information Manager
Mr Juan LACORT (ES), Assistant Information Manager
Ms Birgit MÜLLER (DE), Assistant Communication Manager
Mr Jean-Philippe FLORENT (BE), Assistant Information Manager
Ms Marta URRUTIA (ES), Project Manager - Seconded National Expert from "Instituto Nacional de Seguridad e Higiene"
Ms Xenia GARCÍA (ES), Publication and Events Assistant
Ms Ingrid PONCELET (BE), Promotion and Media Relations Assistant
Ms Pascale TURLLOTTE (FR), Administrative Assistant
Ms Mónica AZAOLA (ES), Secretary

Ms Estibaliz MARTÍNEZ (ES), Secretary
Mr Gorka MORAL (ES), Webmaster
Ms María José URKIDI (ES), Secretary

RISK OBSERVATORY UNIT

Mr Eusebio RIAL GONZÁLEZ (UK), Head of Unit
Mr William COCKBURN (UK), Project Manager
Ms Elke SCHNEIDER (AT), Project Manager
Ms Malgorzata MILCZAREK (PL), Project Manager - Seconded National
Expert from Central Institute for Labour Protection - National Research Institute, Poland
Ms Katalin SAS (FI), Project Manager - Seconded National
Expert from the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH)
Ms Emmanuelle BRUN (FR), Assistant Project Manager
Ms Joanna KOSK-BIENKO (PL), Assistant Project Manager
Mr Xabier IRASTORZA (ES), Project Manager Assistant
Mr Alexandre HERTE (BE), Clerical Officer
Ms Mónica VEGA (ES), Secretary
Ms Berta LEJARZA MADARIAGA (ES), Secretary

WORKING ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION UNIT

Mr Terry N. TAYLOR (UK), Head of Unit
Ms Sarah COPSEY (UK), Project Manager
Mr Lorenzo MUNAR (ES), Project Manager
Ms Zinta PODNIECE (LV), Project Manager
Mr Tim TREGENZA (UK), Project Manager
Mr Dietmar ELSLER (DE), Project Manager - Seconded National
Expert from Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin (BAuA)
Ms Michaela SEIFERT (AT), Assistant Project Manager
Ms Estibaliz VIDART (ES), Secretary

RESOURCE AND SERVICE CENTRE

Head of Unit (under recruitment)
Mr Marc JACCARINI (MT), Human Resources Manager
Mr Marek BIENKO (PL), ICT Manager
Mr Gerardo KNOUSE (ES), Finance manager
Mr Juan Carlos DEL CAMPO (ES), Accountant
Mr Xabier ALTUBE (ES), Assistant ICT Manager
Mrs Ana IZAGUIRRE (ES), Assistant ICT Manager
Ms Caroline GEORGES (FR), Assistant Human Resources Manager
Mr Philippe BAILLET (BE), Finance Officer
Ms Azucena URTASUN (ES), General Services Assistant
Mr Frederic DEGEEST (BE), Clerical Officer
Ms Mari Carmen DE LA CRUZ (ES), Administrative Assistant
Ms Iraide ESTRATAETXE (ES), Documentalist
Ms Silvia GRADOS (ES), General Services Assistant
Ms Begoña S. GRAÑA (ES), Secretary
Mr Joseba CALLE (ES), Auxiliary Agent in the field of Information Technologies
Mr Iker GONZALEZ (ES), Auxiliary Agent in the field of Information Technologies
Ms Susana BILBAO (ES), Documentalist

ANNEX 5

Focal points (December 2007)

Focal points, in more than 30 countries, coordinate and disseminate information from the Agency within their individual countries, as well as provide feedback and recommendations. Typically the lead OSH organisation in their respective countries, they are the Agency's official representatives at national

level. They contribute to the development of the Agency's information services and website, which links together all 32 focal point websites, plus others. As well as the 27 EU Member States, focal points have also been established in the EFTA countries and EU candidate countries.

FOCAL POINTS OF THE EU MEMBER STATES

AUSTRIA

Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Arbeit
Sektion IX/6 - Zentral-Arbeitsinspektorat
Favoritenstrasse 7
A-1040 Wien
Austria
Contact person: Mag. Martina HÄCKEL-BUCHER
Tel: +43 1 711 00 22 74
Email: martina.haekkel-bucher@bmwa.gv.at

BELGIUM

Federal Public Service Employment, Labour and Social Dialogue
Federale Overheidsdienst Werkgelegenheid, Arbeid en Sociaal Overleg
Ernest Blerotstraat 1
B-1070 Brussel
Belgium
Contact person: Mr Willy IMBRECHTS
Tel: +32 2 233 41 11
Email: willy.imbrechts@meta.fgov.be

BULGARIA

Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
Department „Safety and Health at Work“
2 Triaditza Street
BG-1051 Sofia
Bulgaria
Contact person: Mr Vladimir BAROUTTCHIEV
Tel: +359 (2) 987 29 23
Email: safety@mlsp.government.bg

CYPRUS

Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance
Department of Labour Inspection
12, Apellis Str.
CY-1493 Nicosia
Cyprus
Contact person: Mr Leandros NICOLAIDES
Tel: +357 2240 5623
Email: director@dli.mlsi.gov.cy

CZECH REPUBLIC

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Na Porácním právu 1
CZ-128 01 Prague 2
Czech Republic
Contact person: Ms Daniela KUBICKOVA
Tel: +42 (02) 21 92 23 44
Email: daniela.kubickova@mpsv.cz

DENMARK

Arbejdstilsynet

Landskronagade 33, Postboks 1228
DK-0900 København C
Denmark
Contact person: Mrs Tove LOFT
Tel: +45 70 12 12 88
Email: tol@at.dk

ESTONIA

Ministry of Social Affairs

Labour Department
Gonsiori 29
EE-15027 Tallinn
Estonia
Contact person: Mr Tiit KAADU
Tel: +37 2 626 97 80
Email: Tiit.Kaadu@sm.ee

FINLAND

Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

Department for Occupational Safety and Health
P.O. Box 556
FIN-33101 Tampere
Finland
Contact person: Dr Erkki YRJÄNHEIKKI
Tel: +358326272479
Email: erkki.yrjanheikki@stm.fi

FRANCE

Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité

Direction des relations du travail (DRT/CT)
39-43 quai André Citroën
F-75739 Paris Cedex 15
France
Contact person: Mr Robert PICCOLI
Tel: +33 144 38 26 41
Email: robert.piccoli@dgt.travail.gouv.fr

GERMANY

Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales

Referat IIIb2 - Grundsatzfragen des Arbeitsschutzes
Wilhelmstrasse 49
D-10117 Berlin
Germany
Contact person: Mr Reinhard GERBER
Tel: +49-0 30 18 527 67 66
Email: reinhard.gerber@bmas.bund.de

GREECE

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

General Directorate of Working Conditions and Health
40, Pireos str.
GR-10182 Athens
Greece
Contact person: Mr Antonios CHRISTODOULOU
Tel: +30 210 3214 310
Email: christodoulou.osh@yeka.gr

HUNGARY

OMMF-Hungarian Labour Inspectorate

Margit krt. 85
H-1024 Budapest
Hungary
Contact person: Mr János GÁDOR
Tel: +36 1 346 94 54
Email: gador@ommf.hu

IRELAND

South East European Information Centre

Waterford Chamber, 3rd floor, Bank of Scotland
House
3/4 Canada Street Waterford
Ireland
Contact person: Ms Michelle MCHUGH
Tel: +353 5 131 11 38
Email: focalpoint@hsa.ie

ITALY

Istituto Superiore per la Prevenzione e la Sicurezza del Lavoro
Documentation, Information and Education Dpt.
Via Alessandria 220 E
I-00198 Roma
Italy
Contact person: Mr Gerardo CAPOZZA
Tel: +39 06 44 25 06 48
Email: gerardo.capozza@ispsel.it

LATVIA

State Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Latvia
Public Relations Unit
Kr. Valdemara, 38
LV-1010 Riga
Latvia
Contact person: Ms Dace AVENA
Tel: +371 7 02 17 35
Email: dace.avena@vdi.gov.lv

LITHUANIA

State Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Lithuania
Algirdo, 19
LT-2006 Vilnius
Lithuania
Contact person: Ms Nerita SOT
Tel: +370 52 60 34 72
Email: nerita@vdi.lt

LUXEMBOURG

Inspection du Travail et des Mines
3, rue des primeurs
L-2361 Luxembourg
Luxembourg
Contact person: Mr Paul WEBER
Tel: +352 478 61 50
Email: paul.weber@itm.etat.lu

MALTA

Occupational Health and Safety Authority
Communications and PR Division
17 Edgar Ferro' Street
PTA 3153 Pieta'
Malta
Contact person: Ms Romina RIECK ZAHRA
Tel: +356 21 24 76 77/8
Email: romina.riECKzahra@gov.mt

NETHERLANDS

TNO Work and Employment
Postbus 718
NL-2130 AS Hoofddorp
Netherlands
Contact person: Mr Henk SCHRAMA
Tel: +31 (23) 554 93 93
Email: henk.schrama@tno.nl

POLAND

Central Institute for Labour Protection - National Research Institute
ul. Czerniakowska 16
00-701 Warszawa
Poland
Contact person: Dr Wiktor Marek ZAWIESKA
Tel: +48 22 623 46 01
Email: wikli@ciop.pl

PORTUGAL

Instituto para a Segurança, Higiene e Saúde no Trabalho
Avenida da Republica No 84, 5º Andar
P-1600 - 205 Lisboa
Portugal
Contact person: Ms Maria Manuela CALADO CORREIA
Tel: +351 217 92 70 00
Email: manuela.calado@ishst.pt

ROMANIA

National Research Institute for Labour Protection

General Budisteanu 15, Sect. 1

010 773 Bucharest

Romania

Contact person: Ms Mihaela SOVIANI TRIPCOVICI

Tel: +402 1 310 18 09

Email: office@protectiamuncii.ro

SLOVAKIA

Narodny Inspectorat Prace

Masarykova 10

SK-040 01 Kosice

Slovakia

Contact person: Ms Laurencia JANCUROVA

Tel: +421 55 797 99 27

Email: laurencia.jancurova@ip.gov.sk

SLOVENIA

Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs

Kotnikova, 5

SL-1000 Ljubljana

Slovenia

Contact person: Ms Vladka KOMEL

Tel: +386 01/369 77 00

Email: vladka.komel@gov.si

SPAIN

Instituto Nacional de Seguridad e Higiene en el Trabajo

c/Torrelaguna 73

E-28027 MADRID

Spain

Contact person: Ms Yolanda PALACIO FERRERO

Tel: +34 91 363 41 00

Email: ypalacio@mtas.es

SWEDEN

Arbetsmiljöverket (Solna)

SE-171 84 Solna

Sweden

Contact person: Ms Elisabet DELANG

Tel: +46 8 730 90 00

Email: arbetsmiljoverket@av.se

UNITED KINGDOM

Health and Safety Executive

International Unit, Policy Group

Rose Court 9SW, 2 Southwark Bridge

SE1 9 HS London

United Kingdom

Contact person: Mr Jason BATT

Tel: +44 0 845 345 00 55

Email: uk.focalpoint@hse.gsi.gov.uk

OBSERVERS

European Commission

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal

Opportunities

Rue de la Loi, 200

B-1049 Bruxelles

Contact person: Awaiting new name

European Trade Union Confederation

ETUC Secretariat

Bld du Roi Albert II, 5, bte 7

B-1210 Bruxelles

Contact person: Mr Walter CERFEDA

Tel: +32 2 224 0411

Email: wcerfeda@etuc.org

Business Europe

Fédération des Entreprises de Belgique

Verbond van Belgische Ondernemingen

Ravensteinstraat 4

B-1000 Bruxelles

Contact person:

Mr Kris DE MEESTER

Tel: +32 2515 0811

Email: kdm@vbo-feb.be

FOCAL POINTS OF THE EFTA COUNTRIES

ICELAND

Administration for Occupational Safety and Health

Bildshofdi 16
IS-110 Reykjavik
Iceland
Contact person: Ms Inghildur EINARSDOTTIR
Tel: +354 550 46 00
Email: inghildur@ver.is

LIECHTENSTEIN

Amt für Volkswirtschaft

Health and Safety@Work
Gerberweg, 5
FL-9490 Vaduz
Liechtenstein
Contact person: Mr Robert HASSLER
Tel: +423 236 68 71
Email: robert.hassler@avw.llv.li

NORWAY

Norwegian Labour Inspection Authority

Statens hus
N-7468 Trondheim
Norway
Contact person: Mr Odd Einar JOHANSEN
Tel: +47 73 19 97 00
Email: Odd.Einar.Johansen@atil.no

SWITZERLAND

SECO - Staatssekretariat für Wirtschaft

Ressort Arbeit und Gesundheit -
Stauffacherstrasse 101
CH-8004 Zürich
Switzerland
Contact person: Mr Joseph WEISS
Tel: +41 (1) 433 22 21 13
Email: joseph.weiss@seco.admin.ch

FOCAL POINTS OF THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES AND POTENTIAL CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

ALBANIA

State Inspectorate of Labour

Rr. Kavajes No. 53
Albania
Contact person: Mrs Frosina Gjino
Tel: +355 4 251348
Email: fgjino@hotmail.com

CROATIA

Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship

Directorate for Labour and Labour Market
Ulica grada Vukovara 78
HR-10 000 Zagreb
Croatia
Contact person: Mr Fran MAROVIC
Tel: +358 1 610 61 11
Email: Fran.Marovic@mingorp.hr

FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Ministry of labour and social politics

State labour inspectorate
Partizanski Odredi 48a
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Contact person: Mr Fexhri SELAMI
Tel: + 389 2 311 61 10
Email: jicky_seeu@yahoo.com

MONTENEGRO

Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Welfare

Labour Inspection for Safety at Work
Rimski trg 46
Montenegro
Contact person: Mr Zlatko Popovic
Tel: + 381 81 230 374
Email: zlatkopuznr@cg.yu

FOCAL POINTS OF THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES AND POTENTIAL CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

SERBIA

Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Policy
Occupational Safety and Health Directorate
Nemanjina 22-26
SR-11000 Belgrade
Serbia
Contact person: Mr Nenad Vladic
Tel: +381 11 306 17 38
Email: nenad.vladic@minrzs.sr.gov.yu

TURKEY

Ministry of Labour and Social Security
General Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety
Inönü Bulvari, I Blok, No. 42, Kat. 4
TR-06100 Emek Ankara
Turkey
Contact person: Mr Sabit YAMAN
Tel: +90 312 215 50 21
Email: syaman@csgb.gov.tr

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

AUSTRALIA

Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC)
Loc 64N1
GPO Box 9879,
AU-Canberra ACT 2601
Mr Bill Scales, Chairman
<http://www.ascc.gov.au/>

KOREA

Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA)
34-4 Gusan-dong, Bupyeong-gu, Incheon
Postal code: 403-711
Mr Kil-sang Park, President
<http://www.kosha.or.kr>

BRAZIL

FUNDACENTRO
Rua Capote Valente, 710 — Pinheiros
CEP 05409-002 São Paulo/SP
Mr. Jurandir Bóia Rocha
<http://www.fundacentro.gov.br>

USA

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
200, Constitution Avenue
Washington, DC 20210
Mr. Edwin G. Foulke Jr., Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSH
<http://www.osha.gov>

CANADA

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS)
135 Hunter Street East
Hamilton ON L8N 1M5
Mr Len Hong, President
<http://www.ccohs.ca/>

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
395 E. Street S.W.
Patriots Plaza Building
Washington, DC 20201
Mr John Howard, Director
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh>

JAPAN

Japan Industrial Safety and Health Association (JISHA)
1-4-6 Umezono, Kiyose-shi
Tokyo 204-0024
Mr Yohtaro Sawada, President
<http://www.jisha.or.jp/>

National Safety Council (NSC)
1025 Connecticut Ave., NW
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20036
Mr Alan C. McMillan, President
<http://www.nsc.org/>

UNITED KINGDOM

Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH)

The Grange, Highfield Drive
Wigston, Leicestershire LE18 1NN
United Kingdom
Mr. Rob Strange, Chief Executive
<http://www.iosh.co.uk/>

INTERNATIONAL

International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH)

ISPESL, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Prevention
Via Fontana Candida 1
I-00040 Monteporzio Catone (Rome)
Italy
Prof Jorma Rantanen, President
Dr Sergio Iavicoli, Secretary General
<http://www.icohweb.org/>

International Labour Office - Safe Work Programme

4, route des Morillons
CH-1211 Geneva 22
Switzerland
Dr Sameera Al-Tuwaijri, Director
<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/safework/>

International Occupational Hygiene Association (IOHA)

5/6 Melbourne Business Court, Millennium Way
Pride Park, Derby - DE24 8LZ
United Kingdom
Mr Rob Ferrie, President
<http://www.ioha.net>

International Social Security Association (ISSA)

4, route des Morillons
Case postale 1
CH-1211 Geneva 22
Switzerland
Mr Hans-Horst Konkolewsky, Secretary General
<http://www.issa.int>

Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO)

525 23rd St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20037
United States
Dr Mirta Roses Periago, Director
<http://www.paho.org/>

European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS)

Section of Occupational Medicine
Dr Aiguader, 80
E-08003 Barcelona
Spain
Dr Consol Serra, President of the UEMS
Section of OM
<http://www.uems.net/>

World Health Organization (WHO)

Avenue Appia 20
CH-1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland
Dr Margaret Chan, Director General
<http://www.who.int/>

ANNEX 6

Overview of focal point network activities in 2007

	Network partners	Social partners	Network meetings
AUSTRIA	22	4	2
BELGIUM	4	3	2
BULGARIA	12	8	4
CROATIA	*	*	*
CYPRUS	15	9	2
CZECH REP.	17	3	3
DENMARK	18+54 members of the Danish Working Environment Council	10	4
ESTONIA	26	2	3
FINLAND	16	8	5
FRANCE	23	9	2
GERMANY	15	2	1
GREECE	20	1 umbrella organisation founded by and representing the most significant employees' and employers' organisations at national level	6
HUNGARY	9	1 person representing 9 various employers' associations and 1 person representing 6 trade unions and workers' associations	3
ICELAND	*	*	*
IRELAND	21	4	3
ITALY	96	22	3
LATVIA	5	2	9

	Network partners	Social partners	Network meetings
LIECHTENSTEIN	*	*	*
LITHUANIA	27	7	2
LUXEMBOURG	9	3	1
MALTA	32	24	0
NETHERLANDS	9	3	4
NORWAY	20	6	4
POLAND	37	14	1
PORTUGAL	84	10	52
ROMANIA	28	7	4
SLOVAK REP.	36	8	3
SLOVENIA	25	10 (5+5)	1
SPAIN	65	8	3
SWEDEN	17	9	6
SWITZERLAND	12	2	3
TURKEY	12	8	2
UK	7 + 37 additional partners depending on campaign theme	2	2

ANNEX 7

Topic centres

GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND STABILITY FOR TOPIC CENTRES

Our two Topic Centres: 'TC Risk Observatory' and 'TC Working Environment' are made up of key

occupational safety and health research institutes in Europe. In contrast to previous Topic Centres, they operate under a renewable framework contract, which enables improved planning and more time for projects.

TOPIC CENTRE RISK OBSERVATORY

LEAD ORGANISATION

Institut National de Recherche et de Sécurité (INRS) — Centre de Lorraine
Avenue de Bourgogne
BP 27
F-54501 Vandoeuvre Cedex

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin (BAuA)
Federal Institute of Occupational Safety and Health
Friedrich Henkel Weg 1-25
D-44149 Dortmund

Berufsgenossenschaftliches Institut für Arbeitsschutz (BGIA)
BG-Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Alte Heerstrasse 111
D-53754 Sankt Augustin

Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH)
Työterveyslaitos
Topeliuksenkatu 41aA
FIN-00250 Helsinki

Instituto Nacional de Seguridad e Higiene en el Trabajo (INSHT)
Torrelaguna 73
E-28027 Madrid

A.S.B.L. Institut pour la prévention, la protection et le bien-être au travail (PREVENT)
Rue Gachard 88 BTE 4
B-1050 Brussels

Central Institute for Labour Protection — National Research Institute (CIOP-PIB)
ul. Czerniakowska 16
PL-00-701 Warsaw

TOPIC CENTRE WORKING ENVIROMENT

LEAD ORGANISATION

**Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH),
Finland**

Topeliuksenkatu 41 a A
FI-00250 Helsinki

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

**Berufsgenossenschaftliches Institut für
Arbeitsschutz — BGIA (BG-Institute for
Occupational Safety and Health)**

Alte Heerstrasse 111
D-53757 Sankt Augustin

**Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und
Arbeitsmedizin (BAuA) — (Federal Institute for
Occupational Safety and Health -FIOH)**

Friedrich-Henkel-Weg 1-25
D-44149 Dortmund

**Centralny Instytut Ochrony Pracy — Państwowy
Instytut Badawczy (CIOP-PIB)**

Czerniakowska 16
PL-00-701 Warsaw

**Fodor József National Center for Public Health,
Hungary**

Nagyvárad tér 2.
H-1096 Budapest

Eurogip — France

Rue de la Fédération
75018 Paris

**Health and Safety Laboratory (HSL), United
Kingdom**

Harpur Hill, Buxton
Derbyshire SK17 9JN, United Kingdom

**Hellenic Institute for Occupational Health and
Safety, Greece**

143 Liosion and Theirsiou 6
10445 Athens, Greece

**Ispesl — Istituto Superiore per la Prevenzione e
la Sicurezza del Lavoro**

Ispesl — National Institute for Safety and
Prevention at Work
Via Urbana, 167
00184 Rome, Italy

**National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH/
AMI), Denmark**

Lersø Parkallé 105
Denmark

**Prevent, Institute for Occupational Safety and
Health, Belgium**

Rue Gachard 88 Box 4
B-1050 Brussels

**Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific
Research, the Netherlands**

Schoemakerstraat 97
2600 JA, Delft

FCT-DEMIS

**Facultade de Ciências e Tecnologia da
Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal**

Quinta da Torre
2829-516 Caparica, Portugal

**Institute of Work, Health and Organisations,
University of Nottingham, United Kingdom**

The University of Nottingham, William Lee
Buildings 8, Science and Technology Park
University Boulevard
Nottingham NG7 2RQ, United Kingdom

Instituto Sindical de Trabajo, Ambiente y Salud

C/General Cabrera 21
E-28020 Madrid, Spain

Cooperation Centre Hamburg

**Part of the Research Section of the Department of
Science and Health of the Free Hanseatic City of
Hamburg**

Besenbinderhof 60
D-20097 Hamburg

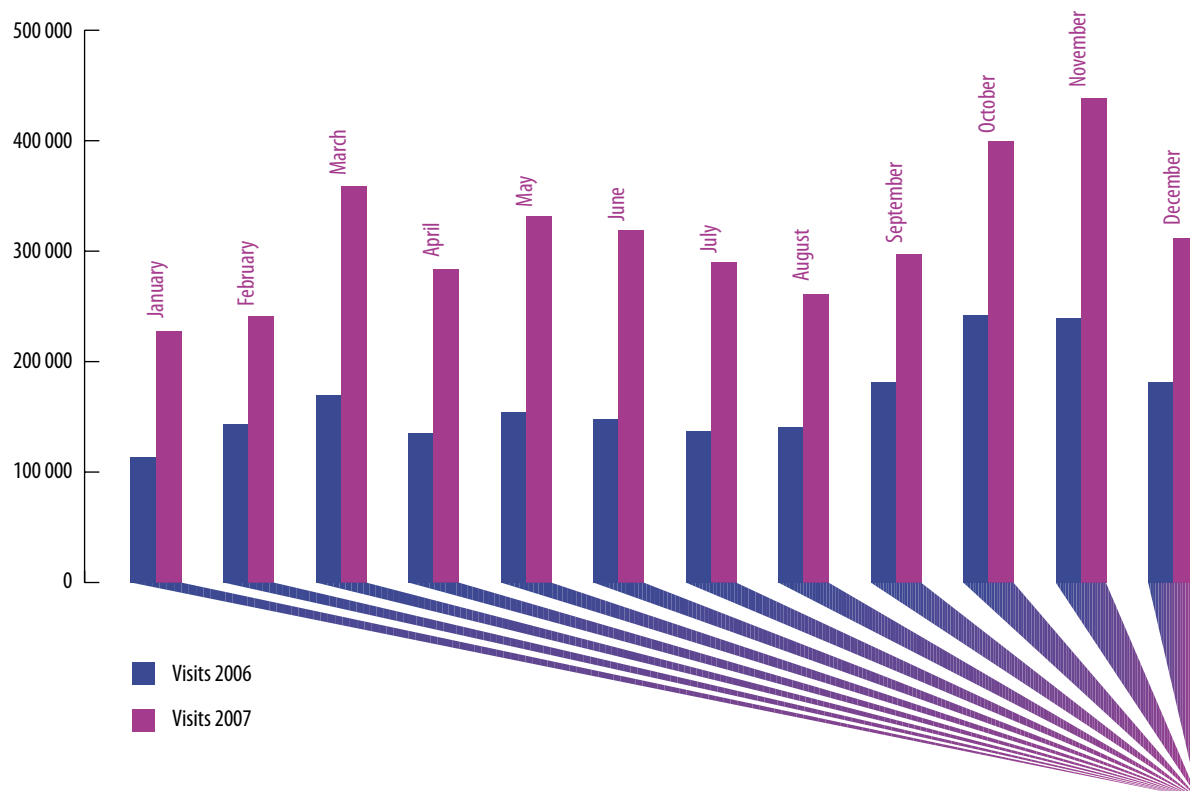
University of Surrey, United Kingdom

University Campus, Stag Hill, Guilford
GU2 7XH Surrey, United Kingdom

ANNEX 8

Website usage

Visits made to EU-OSHA's web sites per month



ANNEX 9

Publications 2007

While the website is its principal means of communication, the Agency also produces a range of reports, forums, factsheets and magazines. They are available online at the Agency's website <http://osha.europa.eu/publications> and in a limited

number of printed copies from the EC's Publications Office in Luxembourg (<http://publications.europa.eu>) or from its sales agents listed at the back of this publication.

CORPORATE PUBLICATIONS



Annual report 2006

Enlarging the power of occupational safety and health in the European Union.

Available in English, 55 pages, A4

Cat. No TEAB07001ENC

A summary is available in the 22 official Community

languages, 6 pages, A4.

Cat. No: TE7807113XXD

http://osha.europa.eu/publications/annual_report/

Annual work programme

Annual work programmes of the planned activities of the Agency have been published since 1996, with summary versions being included as annexes to the annual report and since 1998 they have been available in full on the website.

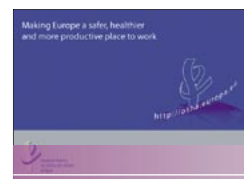
http://osha.europa.eu/publications/work_programmes

Agency Corporate Brochure 2007

Making Europe a safer, healthier and more productive place to work. Available in the 22 official Community languages, 10 pages.

Cat. No: TE7606401XXC

<http://osha.europa.eu/publications/other/>



Company Survey Feasibility Study

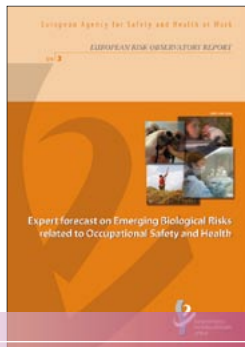
Company survey feasibility study survey design.

Available in English, 38 pages.

http://osha.europa.eu/publications/other/company_survey



INFORMATION REPORTS



Expert forecast on Emerging Biological Risks related to Occupational Safety and Health

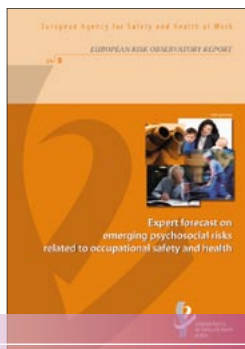
Available in printed and online version in English.
2007 — 145 pp.
ISBN 92-9191-130-5
Cat. No: TE7606488ENC
Price: EUR 15.00

<http://osha.europa.eu/publications/reports>

Work-related musculoskeletal disorders: Back to work report

Available in printed and online version in English.
2007 — 100 pp.
ISBN 978-92-9191-160-8
Cat. No: TE7807300ENC
Price: EUR 25.00

<http://osha.europa.eu/publications/reports>

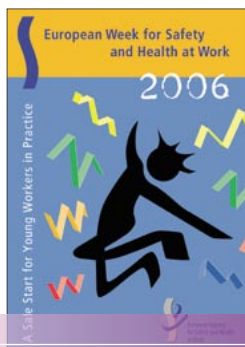


Expert forecast on emerging psychosocial risks related to OSH

Available in printed and online version in English.
2007 — 127 pp.
ISBN 978-92-9191-140-0
Cat. No: TE7807118ENC
Price: EUR 25.00

<http://osha.europa.eu/publications/reports>

REPORT GP BOOKLET



A safe start for young workers in practice

Available in printed and online version in EN/DE/ES/FR
2007 — 108 pp.
ISBN 92-9191-134-8
Cat. No: TE7707062ENC

<http://osha.europa.eu/publications/reports>

FACTS

Factsheets provide concise information on various activities. They are available in all 22 official Community languages:

<http://osha.europa.eu/publications/factsheets/>

Facts 68

Expert forecast on Emerging Biological Risks related to Occupational Safety and Health
2007, Cat. No: TE7606487
(BG/CS/DA/DE/EL/EN/ES/ET/FI/FR/HU/IT/LT/LV/MT/NL/PL/PT/RO/SK/SL/SV)C



Facts 69

Young workers-Facts and figures. Youth employment
2007, Cat. No: TE7606504 (BG/CS/DA/DE/EL/EN/ES/ET/FI/FR/HU/IT/LT/LV/MT/NL/PL/PT/RO/SK/SL/SV)C

Facts 70

Young workers-Facts and figures. Exposure to risks and health effects
2007, Cat. No: TE7606506
(BG/CS/DA/DE/EL/EN/ES/ET/FI/FR/HU/IT/LT/LV/MT/NL/PL/PT/RO/SK/SL/SV)C



Facts 71

Introduction to work-related MSDs
2007, Cat. No: TE7606536 (BG/CS/DA/DE/EL/EN/ES/ET/FI/FR/HU/IT/LT/LV/MT/NL/PL/PT/RO/SK/SL/SV)C

Facts 72

Work-related neck & upper limb disorders
2007, Cat. No: TE7606535
(BG/CS/DA/DE/EL/EN/ES/ET/FI/FR/HU/IT/LT/LV/MT/NL/PL/PT/RO/SK/SL/SV)C





Facts 73

Hazards and risks associated with manual handling of loads in the workplace

2007, Cat. No: TE7606537
(BG/CS/DA/DE/EL/EN/ES/
ET/FI/FR/HU/IT/LT/LV/MT/
NL/PL/PT/RO/SK/SL/SV)C

Facts 74

Expert forecast on emerging psychosocial risks related to occupational safety and health (OSH)

2007, Cat. No: TE7807236 (BG/CS/DA/DE/EL/EN/ES/
ET/FI/FR/HU/IT/LT/LV/MT/NL/PL/PT/RO/SK/SL/SV)C



Facts 75

Work-related musculoskeletal disorders: Back to work

2007, Cat. No: TEAE07075
(BG/CS/DA/DE/EL/EN/ES/
ET/FI/FR/HU/IT/LT/LV/MT/
NL/PL/PT/RO/SK/SL/SV)C

MAGAZINE



European Agency magazine

European Agency magazine 10—
Musculoskeletal disorders
Available in German,
English, French and
Spanish
Cat. No: TEAA07010 (ES/
DE/EN/FR)-C

<http://osha.europa.eu/publications/magazine/10>

CAMPAIGN MATERIALS

The Agency's campaigning activities are focused on the annual European Week for Safety and Health at Work, for which it publishes a range of campaign materials from factsheets and leaflets to posters and videos. In addition, the Agency also organises conferences and colloquia.

Poster, leaflet, flyer

Musculoskeletal disorders – Lighten the load

European Week for Safety and Health at Work 2007
Available in all official languages of the EU
<http://ew2007.osha.europa.eu/>



DVD_NAPO

Lighten the load

TE7707051ENZ

NAPO



DVD_NAPO compendium (Napó 1 to 6)

TE76064281MZ

HWI CAMPAIGN

HWI Brochure revision 07

(CS/ET/EL/EN/HU/LV/LT/MT/PL/SK/SL/RO/BG)
TE7606001XX1

HWI Leaflet revision 07

(CS/ET/EL/EN/HU/LV/LT/MT/PL/SK/SL/RO/BG)
TE7606002XX1

HWI Risk Assessment Tool rev 07 (I+II in one single book)

(CS/ET/EL/EN/HU/LV/LT/MT/PL/SK/SL/RO/BG)
TE7807073XXC

E-FACTS

E-facts are publications that are only available through the web.

<http://osha.europa.eu/publications/e-facts/>



E-facts 09 Work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs): an introduction

E-facts 10 Work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) in education



E-facts 11 European legal requirements relating to work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs)



E-facts 12 Work related musculoskeletal disorders in the service and retail sectors

E-facts 13 Office ergonomics



E-facts 14 Hazards and risks associated with manual handling in the workplace

E-facts 15 Work – related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) and the pace of work



E-facts 16 Hazards and risks leading to work-related neck and upper limb disorders (WRULDs)

E-facts 17 The prevention of work-related neck and upper limb disorders (WRULDs) in construction



E-facts 18 Risk assessment in health care

ANNEX 10

Finance 2006/07

Actual financial implementation includes payments and carry-over generated on the year. Figures in EUR.

	Final Budget 2007	Actual implementation 2007	Actual implementation 2006
Revenues			
European Community subsidy	14 000 000	13 000 000	11 900 000
European Commission PHARE	213 460	168 460	296 540
Other subsidies	434 302	414 490	136 300
Other revenues	279 941	289 688	66 500
Other			59 756
Total revenue	14 927 703	13 872 638	12 459 096
Expenditure			
<i>Title I</i>			
Staff costs (salaries, allowances and other staff costs)	4 797 295	4 156 273	3 909 648
<i>Title II</i>			
Buildings, equipment and miscellaneous operating expenditure	1 622 907	1 439 165	1 451 775
<i>Title III</i>			
Focal points' activities, including expert group activities	971 600	936 237	856 095
Establishment and management of the information network on Internet	193 223	189 526	209 269
Editing, publication and distribution of information and other activities	399 250	391 695	415 642
Conferences, seminars, workshops and public events, promotional activities, etc.	532 382	532 108	726 971

	Final Budget 2007	Actual implementation 2007	Actual implementation 2006
Studies and pilot schemes topic centres	2 088 730	2 046 247	1 374 821
Mission, entertainment and representation expenses	248 047	241 931	221 806
Meetings of the Board and Bureau	197 057	185 861	132 973
Translation of studies, reports and working documents	985 752	985 331	791 886
Preparation, organisation and management of the European Week for Safety and Health at Work	795 000	794 652	567 796
Healthy Workplace Initiative	1 598 900	1 576 413	1 432 256
<i>Total Title III</i>	<i>8 009 941</i>	<i>7 880 001</i>	<i>6 729 515</i>
Subtotal expenditure	14 430 143	13 475 439	12 090 938
Phare programme and other earmarked activities	497 560	328 761	323 704
GRAND TOTAL	14 927 703	13 804 200	12 414 641

Remark: 2006 figures include definitive payments and carry-overs paid during 2007, while 2007 figures refer to definitive payments and provisional carry-overs to be paid during 2008. For earmarked expenses, actual implementation of activities only reflects payments, no carry over are considered.

ANNEX 11

Board assessment and analysis of the Authorising Officer's Annual Activity Report for the financial year 2007

The Governing Board of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work has received the Authorising Officer's Annual Activity Report for the year 2007 and is, on the basis of the information provided, of the opinion that the Agency's Work Programme for 2007 has been implemented in a satisfactory manner and that the resources provided have been spent in a reasonable way.



Christa Schweng
Chairperson of the Governing Board

ANNEX 12

Outlook 2008

A NEW CAMPAIGN, AND NEW CAMPAIGN MODEL

2008 will see a new approach to Agency campaigning, following the Governing Board's decision to move to a two-year cycle, starting with the Risk Assessment campaign (2008-2009). The move follows the recommendation of the Agency's external evaluators that a longer campaign cycle would allow a more forward-looking approach to campaigning. The move is also intended to make the Agency's campaigns more effective in achieving the objectives of the new Community Strategy, and the new approach will become a key element of the Agency's next rolling work programme (2009-2013).

As well as the shift to a two-year cycle, the revised campaign strategy involves an increased focus on network-based campaigning, and the rolling-out of the new financial support model that was successfully applied during the Healthy Workplaces Initiative campaigns of 2006 and 2007, and which has also been successfully tested by a number of FOPs during the European Week 2007 campaign.

By extending the European Week Campaign to run over a two-year period, we allow more time for preparation and follow-up, including the planning of the campaign strategy and materials. It also gives more time to develop partnerships with EU-level stakeholders and other potential campaign partners at the beginning of each campaign. And it allows time for implementation as it enables us to identify and recognise good practices in the first year and implement these at national and workplace level in year two.

The second year can also be used to follow-up contacts that are made during the campaign with businesses and other organisations, to help ensure that key messages and practices are effectively disseminated.

There will still be a European Week every year to ensure that we do not lose the momentum of the campaign, and to provide an annual focus for events and activities.

Materials for the 2008 Risk Assessment Campaign have been developed throughout 2007. At the request of stakeholders, these include new tools and checklists for different sectors.

Campaigns over the next five years will be promoted under the umbrella title 'Healthy Workplaces: Good for you. Good for Europe.' The Risk Assessment campaign, meanwhile, will have the slogan 'Healthy Workplaces: Good for you. Good for business.'

NETWORKING

The Agency will be participating in the 18th World Congress on Safety and Health at Work which will be held in Seoul, Korea from 29 June to 2 July 2008. This provides a unique opportunity for decision-makers, safety and health professionals, and employers' and workers' representatives to exchange information with their peers from around the world.

Also in the international arena, the Agency will continue in 2008 to strengthen its contacts with the focal points and their national networks, as well as with OSH institutions outside the EU, and continue

to prepare for enlargement by supporting Candidate and potential Candidate countries.

FORECASTING METHODOLOGY FOR EMERGING RISKS

In 2008, the Agency will continue to work on the forecasting of new and emerging risks. The last few years have seen a renewed focus in the EU Member States and in the US on developing forecasting methodologies, and making forecasting more systematic. The Agency has already carried out a review of work in this area – 2008 will see the first in a series of workshops bringing together experts involved in this field, in order to review the pros and cons of different forecasting methods. Following this assessment of current methodologies, the Agency will be designing its own methodology for forecasting new and emerging risks: this will involve looking ahead approximately ten years – anticipating change, so that we can act now to prevent future problems.

CARCINOGENS AND OCCUPATIONAL CANCER

Occupational cancer was one of the key topics of the 2007 World Day for Safety and Health at Work, when the Agency published the most recent international estimates of the number of work-related cancers and deaths. The results of two major Agency projects on carcinogens and occupational cancer are due to be published in 2008, giving an overview of the topic and addressing more specifically the ways in which occupational exposure limits for these substances are being set in the EU.

RESEARCH ON NEW AND EMERGING RISKS

The last in the Agency's series of four flagship reports on new and emerging risks will be published in 2008, and will focus on chemical risks.

GOOD PRACTICE INFORMATION ON ROAD TRANSPORT

In 2008, the Agency will be providing information and OSH programmes in the road transport sector, targeting SMEs especially. The aim is to give an overview of the associated OSH issues, including

those involved in freight transport by road, transporting dangerous substances, transporting people in buses etc., and making motorcycle and bicycle deliveries. Outputs will include the development of dedicated web pages, case studies of OSH failures, a policy overview of OSH campaigns and programmes in the sector, a case study report on the protection of road haulage and bus drivers, and a review of guidance available on taxi driver and chauffeur protection.

OSH AND ECONOMIC INCENTIVES

During 2008, the Agency will prepare 'OSH and Economic Performance: A Report on Economic Incentives', which is due to be published in 2009.

The report reflects an increasing concern among European policymakers with the economic instruments that are available to help improve the working environment. Strict regulatory approaches are not always effective, and so instead of so-called 'command-and-control' approaches, market-based instruments might be used, providing economic incentives to employers to improve their working conditions. These economic instruments might involve linking good OSH performance with lower accident insurance premiums or tax rates, better banking conditions such as lower interest rates, or state subsidies for example.

The report includes a literature review, a good practice report and a review of international, European and national policies regarding OSH economic incentives, as well as an analysis of different models of economic incentives across Europe, comparing their advantages and drawbacks according to common criteria. The aim is for it to be used for the development of economic incentive schemes in OSH, and especially schemes targeted at SMEs, which are at present rarely offered this kind of motivation.

It also examines especially forward-looking models of economic incentives, in that it looks especially at those cases where organisations can be rewarded for undertaking to make improvements in health and safety, without waiting for reduced accident figures etc to show that these improvements have already been brought about. It is beyond the remit

of the report to make recommendations – it merely provides an overview, with the aim of stimulating discussion.

There is a need for a greater understanding of the effectiveness of economic incentives in promoting OSH. However, the published research in this area is either too old to cover the newest developments, or does not provide a systematic evaluation of different models according to common criteria. There is a need for organisations such as accident and health insurers, pension fund managers, labour inspectorates or local or national governments, to be given guidance on how economic incentives can be made effective.

The Agency may in future be able to stimulate the use of economic incentives, helping Member States who are thinking of changing their national systems, and encouraging insurers themselves to develop incentive schemes.

REPORT ON OSH AND ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

A report on insurance premiums and other financial incentives for improving safety and health performance will be published in 2008.

MAINSTREAMING OSH INTO EDUCATION

In 2008, the Agency will begin preparation of a report on how training in teaching risk assessment is provided to teachers. The Agency has found that lack of preparation of existing and future teachers is an obstacle to their teaching risk education in the school curriculum.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Web development work will continue, with areas of the Agency website being selected for updating.

European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

Annual report 2007

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities

2008 — 62 pp. — 21 x 29.7 cm

ISBN 978-92-9191-164-6

SALES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Publications for sale produced by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities are available from our sales agents throughout the world.

You can find the list of sales agents on the Publications Office website (<http://publications.europa.eu>) or you can apply for it by fax (352) 29 29-42758.

Contact the sales agent of your choice and place your order.



In order to improve the working environment, as regards the protection of the safety and health of workers as provided for in the Treaty and successive Community strategies and action programmes concerning health and safety at the workplace, the aim of the Agency shall be to provide the Community bodies, the Member States, the social partners and those involved in the field with the technical, scientific and economic information of use in the field of safety and health at work.

E u r o p e a n A g e n c y f o r S a f e t y a n d H e a l t h a t W o r k
[h t t p : / / o s h a . e u r o p a . e u](http://osha.europa.eu)



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