



Your link to safety and health at work

A short guide to the online network of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

Creating a safer and healthier working environment in Europe lies beyond the resources and expertise of a single country or institution. The Bilbao-based European Agency for Safety and Health at Work was set up by the European Union to collect and share the region's vast reservoir of knowledge and information on occupational safety and health (OSH) related issues and preventive measures.

The web and other Internet-related tools are ideally suited to this task and the Agency's website at <http://osha.eu.int> brings together a unique network of European, national and international websites. First launched in 1997, it is well on its way to becoming the main portal to occupational safety and health information.

What is the Agency's network?

The Agency's network is a collection of European and international OSH websites with up-to-date and practical information on key areas such as legislation and regulations, good practice, research, statistics, training and other fields.

The network's home page <http://osha.eu.int>, links to over 30 national websites maintained by the Agency's focal points (usually the lead OSH organisation in the EU Member States, candidate countries and other international partners). It acts as a gateway to an ever-increasing amount of information for anyone with an interest in safety and health at work whether you are a worker, employer, practitioner or expert.

All of the sites within the network have a common structure and are linked at every level via a pop-up navigation menu. This allows you to cross-reference key OSH information areas by country or institution. Click on one of the information topics in the left bar i.e. 'good practice' and click on a country or institution from the pop-up menu to see the information available on good practice in that country/institution. It is the interlinking of so many similarly structured sites that has created this new health and safety resource, greatly simplifying the collection and exchange of information on occupational safety and health matters across Europe.

The network of websites is constantly being developed and improved through the addition of new information and links to other sites. One-click shortcuts provide users with instant access to priority topics such as accidents, stress and musculoskeletal disorders and information on the changing world of work or high-risk sectors such as fisheries. Printer-friendly web pages make it easy to transfer the information from the computer screen to the workplace. Other features of the site include a multilingual interface, links to automated translation services and a regularly updated international safety and health news service.

Continuously expanding the website and maintaining its user-friendliness will ensure that it remains the main website for anyone seeking up-to-date OSH information on Europe.

Take a look at the images below and overleaf to see the workings and structure of the network site.

A step-by-step guide to <http://osha.eu.int/>

Language selection bar

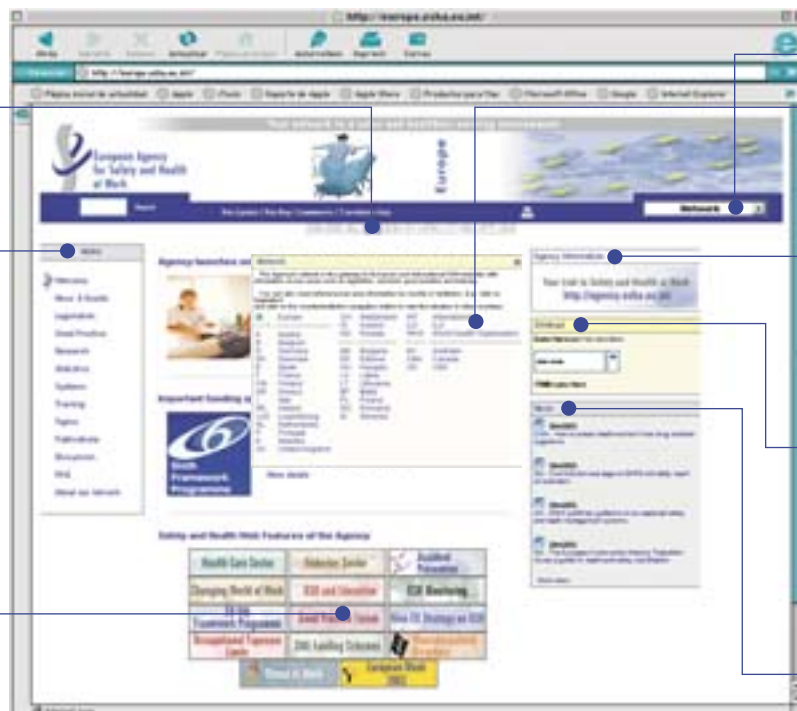
Language versions of most pages are available by clicking on the relevant icon.

Menu

OSH information categories.

One-click shortcuts

One-click shortcuts provide users with instant access to priority OSH topics.



Network menu

This button opens a **pop-up menu** for access to individual, national and institutional websites. They are the homepages of the Agency's national representatives—the focal points.

Agency information

Link to the Agency corporate site.

Electronic newsletter

Subscribe to the Agency bi-weekly newsletter - Oshmail.

News

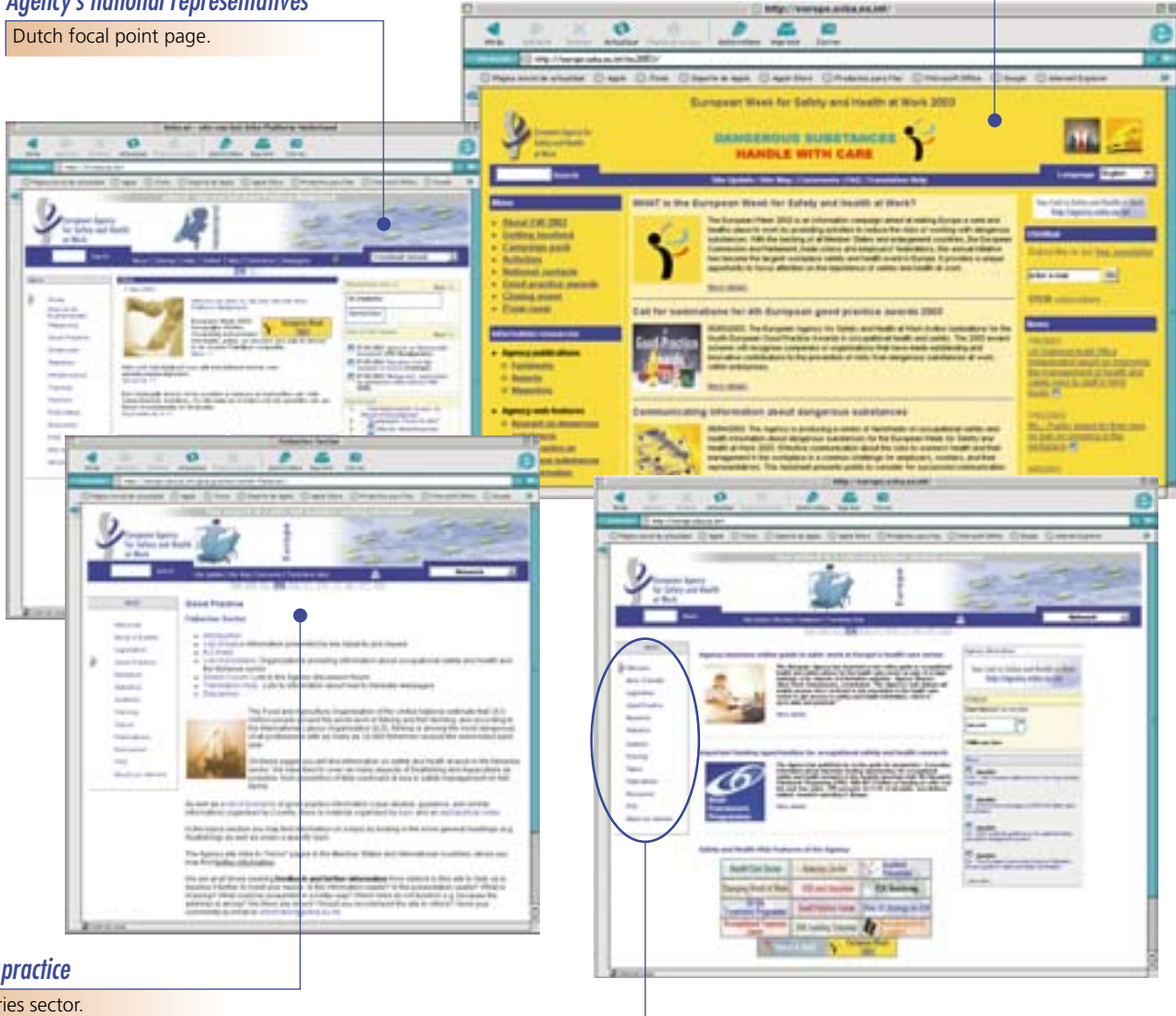
Daily international OSH news.

Safety and health web features

Dangerous Substances.

Agency's national representatives

Dutch focal point page.



Good practice

Fisheries sector.

Navigation menu

The navigation menu on the left-hand side of the homepage lists the following OSH information categories available on the network.

Welcome

An introduction to the network and its contents.

News & events

Information, news, conferences, press releases and links to OSH newsletters and magazines.

Legislation

EU and national legislation, standards and guidelines.

Good practice

Information on the practical implementation of OSH at enterprise level, including information providers, databases, financing schemes, etc.

Research

Current state of knowledge about key OSH issues: institutes, databases, web journals, funding organisations.

Statistics

OSH statistics and surveys.

Systems

OSH systems, institutions, strategies and programmes.

Training

General information and resources.

Topics

Information on specific subjects, e.g. risks, effects, solutions, etc.

Publications

Provides information and links to OSH publications, bibliographic databases and campaign material.

Discussion forums

Online discussion forums for OSH professionals and practitioners to browse, exchange information, and post questions on topics related to good practice and the practical implementation of OSH at enterprise level.

FAQ

Answers to frequently asked questions about the Agency and the network site.

About our network

An introduction to the Agency's network.