

# The 2018-19 'Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances' Campaign

Tim Tregenza Network Manager

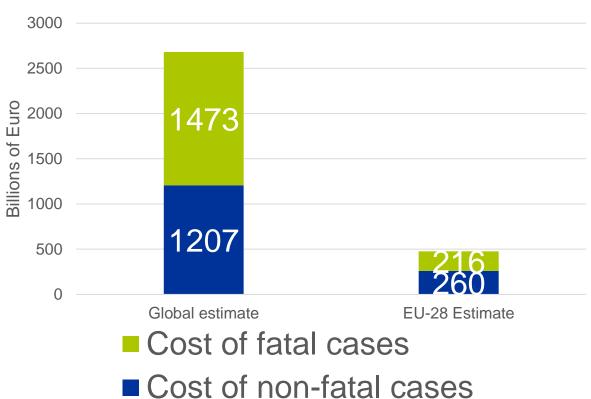






#### Cost of work-related accidents and ill-health

# Cost of work-related accidents Global and EU-28 estimates (bio. EUR)



Employment is key for social inclusion and an important determinant of health, providing a link between the individual and society, self-esteem, identity, personal fulfilment.

#### BUT...

Estimated 200 000 work-related deaths a year in EU-28

Of which only about 3 000 are injuries





#### **EU-OSHA** support "Roadmap on Carcinogens"



- A European policy initiative driven by Dutch and Austrian Governments
  - Platform for sharing practical information
- EU OSHA strongly supporting the "Roadmap" with
  - Joint info sheet
  - Promotion of activities
  - Annual event
  - Promotion of tools and instruments



THE FACTS

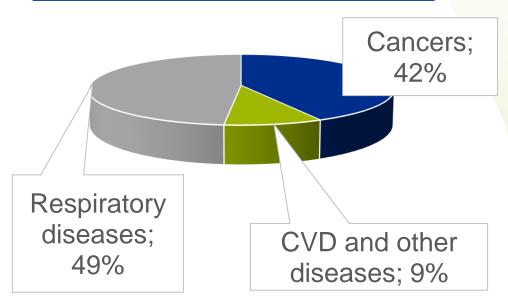
IOIN IN!



### The problem with dangerous substances

- In 2015, an estimated 980 000 workers globally died at work due to hazardous substances
- Dangerous substances are in particular causing cancer and respiratory diseases
- Occupational exposure to carcinogens cause 80 000 deaths per year in the EU

Estimated global deaths from hazardous substances (2015)







#### "Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances"

#### A two-year European campaign to :

- Raise awareness of the problem
- Inform of the legal requirements
- Inform of solutions and provide tools to support action
- Target in particular workers with specific needs with focused information
- Cover in particular the issue of carcinogens







#### How will achieve our goals?

- Working together for risk prevention
  - Employers, workers, health and safety professionals
- Using the power of networks
  - Focal points, Enterprise Europe Network, sectoral social dialogue,
    campaign partners, media partners, expert networks and institutions
- A broad campaign with common materials and theme
  - Adaptable to national, sectoral, and thematic needs
- High level policy support
  - European Commission and national Governments



#### **Campaign content**



Healthy Workplaces MANAGE DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES









#### **Key Points**

- Exposure to dangerous substances in the workplace continues to be a major safety and health issue. The health effects can be life changing and even fatal.
- The best way to reduce the risks is elimination and substitution — removing the substance by changing the process or product in which it is used or replacing it with a less dangerous one.
- Substitution is a stepwise process a complete risk assessment is a key step in the process.
- By working together, management and workers can build a strong risk prevention culture in which substitution is part of prevention and protection routines.

All info sheets and other campaign materials are available to download from EU-OSHA's Healthy Workplaces Campaign website (https://healthy-workplaces.eu).

Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances



- Database of resources
- E-tool
- Website
- Checklists
- OSHwiki articles
- Good practice examples





### **Managing dangerous substances**



Get the basics right



Follow the control hierarchy



Face up to carcinogens



Some are at more risk than others





#### Get the basics right



Get the basics right – Start with the risk assessment



Show leadership – NOT do as I say, not as I do



Ensure active worker participation - Talk, listen, empower

#### Follow the control hierarchy

- Assess the dangers in the workplace
  - Considering the hazards, risks, and existing prevention measures?
- Eliminate where possible
- Substitute the dangerous for something not or less hazardous
- Use collective control measures to protect all workers including for fire safety
  - Closed systems for carcinogens
  - Organisational, workplace, and work equipment measures
- Measure exposure of workers in relation to exposure limit values
  - Exposure should be as low as possible
- Provide hygiene measures
- Personal protection is a last resort
- Train and inform workers





#### Face up to carcinogens

#### STOP!

Substitute

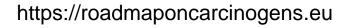
European Agency

- Technical measures
- Organisational measures
- Personal protective equipment

Workers that are regularly exposed to diesel exhaust fumes have an increased risk of developing lung cancer

#### **Case study**

- UK waste management company has fleet of diesel vehicles
- Invested in proactive vehicle maintenance so emissions reduced (and fuel economy increased)
- Put improved exhaust systems on vehicles
- Installed LEV in workshops
- Introduced overnight charging system for electrical devices so diesel engine does not have to run to provide power on site





#### Some are at more risk than others

# Diverse workforce means that "risk profile" may vary

- Temporary workers and shift workers may miss out on training
- Migrant workers may not understand instructions
- Young workers may lack maturity
- PPE may not be designed for women

## **Case Study**

- Swedish cleaning company changed their inventory of cleaning products to eliminate most hazardous
- Introduced systems of work for dosing of concentrated chemicals to minimise exposure
- Provide focused training for migrant workers unused to Swedish tools and materials and unfamiliar with chemical risks

https://osha.europa.eu/en/tools-and-publications/publications/controlling-chemicals-cleaning-sector-less-more/view



#### How can I join in?

- Take action in your workplace
- Organise an event
- Use campaign materials
- Enter the Good Practice Awards Competition
- Talk to the focal point
- Watch NAPO <a href="https://www.napofilm.net">https://www.napofilm.net</a>

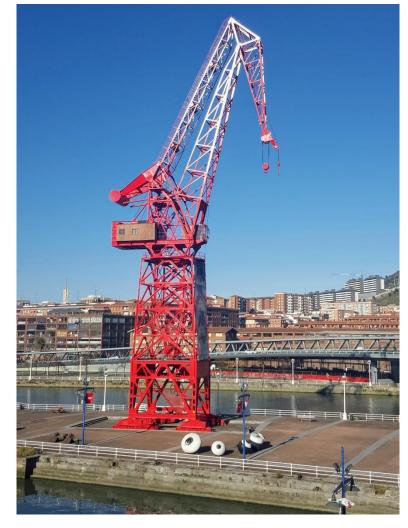






#### **Good practice awards**

- A way to recognise actions by enterprises to improve working conditions
- Winning entries receive publicity and take part in European events
- Two-stage tripartite process
  - National selection
  - European jury
- Launched EU level April 2018







# All information available for download free of charge



healthy-workplaces.eu

OSHA.EUROPA.EU



