



UNION EUROPÉENNE DES PRODUCTEURS DE GRANULATS
EUROPÄISCHER GESTEINSVERBAND
EUROPEAN AGGREGATES ASSOCIATION

EU Priorities on Health & Safety

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Lansdowne Resort, USA
26 September 2008



European Institutions



European Commission



European Parliament



Council of the European Union

EC: New Social Agenda



Commissioner Vladimir Spidla

New Social Agenda
published in 2005



Community strategy on
health and safety at work
2007-2012

Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work

Challenges

- Certain categories of workers are still overexposed to occupational risks
- Certain types of companies are more vulnerable
- Certain sectors are particularly dangerous



Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work

Objectives

- Support small and medium enterprises in the implementation of the legislation in force
- Adapt the legal framework to changes in the workplace and simplify it
- Promote the development and implementation of national strategies
- Encourage changes in the behaviour of workers and encourage their employers to adopt health-focused approaches



Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work

The Community strategy calls for

- Drawing up guidelines on the correct application of the Directive for temporary or mobile construction sites. The guidelines will be produced by the Committee on health and safety at work
- The European Agency for health and safety at work to raise awareness and promote and disseminate best practice with a focus on high-risk sectors



Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work

The Community strategy calls for

The European Commission to find ways, through consultation with employers and unions of improving risk prevention with regard to muscular-skeletal disorders and carcinogens.



Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work

The Community strategy calls for

The European Commission to report on the evaluation of the implementation of the Directives on

- Safety and/or health signs at work
- Extracting industries through drilling
- Temporary or mobile construction sites
- Surface and underground mineral extracting industries



Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work

The Community strategy calls for

- The European Commission to evaluate the measures taken in response to the recommendations concerning self-employed workers and the European schedule of occupational diseases
- The implementation of systematic procedures to gather and analyse the data drawn from the health surveillance of workers



Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work

The Community strategy calls for

- The Member States to make provision in their national strategies for specific initiatives enabling enterprises, in particular small and medium firms to be given technical assistance and advice concerning the promotion of workers' health
- The European Agency for Health and Safety to collect and disseminate information on occupational health promotion campaigns



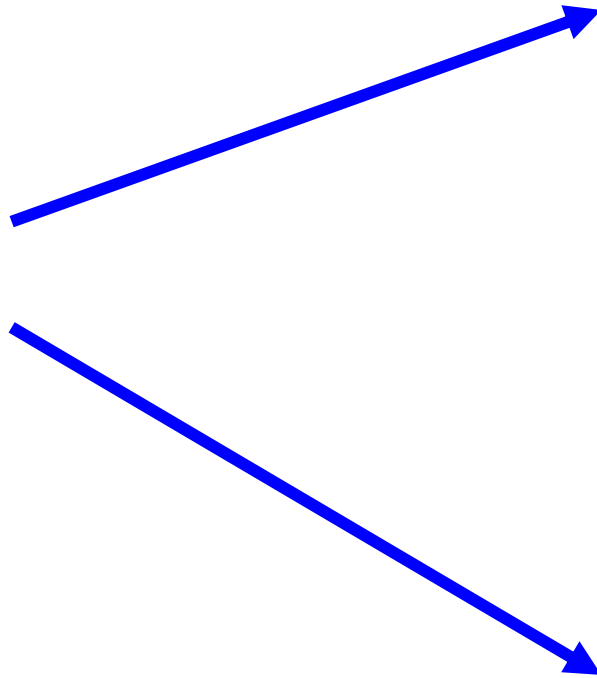
Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work

The Community strategy calls for

- Employers and unions are invited to draw up initiatives in the context of sectoral social dialogue and to ensure that workers' representatives are given a greater coordinating role
- The European Agency for health and safety at work to encourage national health and safety institutes to set joint priorities and exchange results



Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work



European Parliament's Report on the Community Strategy

The Parliament's Report

- Calls on the Commission to give priority in its strategy to those activities and/or industries which involve particular risks, e.g. construction
- Calls on the Commission to ask the European Agency for Health and Safety at Work in Bilbao to submit an assessment of which industries have the highest risk of industrial accidents and occupational diseases and how this can be effectively counteracted



European Parliament's Report on the Community Strategy

The Parliament's Report

- Calls on the Commission to review the use and implementation of existing statistical procedures in order to correctly identify and measure occupational diseases, and in particular occupational cancers with a view to setting targets for their reduction
- Expresses deep concern regarding the excessively high rate of accidents among temporary, short-term and low-qualified workers



European Parliament's Report on the Community Strategy

The Parliament's Report

calls on the Commission and Member States to ensure better application of the existing legal instruments on Occupational Health and Safety. Measures to be considered should include:

- minimum requirements for the quality of preventive services and work inspection and tougher sanctions
- better assessments of legislative implementation
- exchange of best practice



European Parliament's Report on the Community Strategy

Measures to be considered should include:

- strengthening the culture of prevention and early warning systems including broadened access of society to information on occupational and safety conditions at the work place
- greater involvement of employees in the workplace
- stimulating the employers to fulfil their engagements in the field of occupational safety and health at work
- strengthening the use of social dialogue agreements



European Parliament's Report on the Community Strategy

The Parliament's Report

- Calls for national strategies and clear and measurable targets
- Calls on Member States to consider limiting the number of chains in the subcontract sequence and to impose joint liability on the principal contractor for the subcontractors' obligations towards their workers



European Parliament's Report on the Community Strategy

The Parliament's Report

- Considers Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) as one of the effective tools to improve the competitiveness, better occupational and safety at work as well as a better working environment
- Encourages exchange of good practices at local, national and European levels among the Member States and globally at multinational level



European Parliament's Report on the Community Strategy

The Parliament's Report

- awaits the outcome of the second phase of consultation of the social partners on musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs)
- asks the Commission to consider coming forward with proposals for a Directive, given that the increasing occurrence of MSDs and the current legislation would appear to be inadequate as it does not address all work situations or cover all risks concerning work-related MSDs



European Parliament's Report on the Community Strategy



**Glenis Willmott MEP
(Socialist Group, UK)**

The Report calls for binding occupational exposure limit values (BOELVs) for Carcinogens

Glenis Willmott urges the EU Scientific Committee to examine crystalline silica as a matter of priority.

European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

European Week for
Safety and Health at work

Theme for 2008-2010
is "Risk Assessment"

UEPG supports the
European Network for Silica
application for the
Award scheme





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Thank you for your attention

