



Overview of the carcinogens activities under the Roadmap and the Healthy Workplaces campaign.

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Roadmap on Carcinogens Conference
“Working together to eliminate occupational cancer”
Helsinki, 27 – 28 November 2019



EU-OSHA support to action on carcinogens

Preventing risks from carcinogens one of the strategic objectives of the HWC 2018/19

- A joint HWC18/19 info sheet on carcinogens
- Promotion of ongoing actions on the webpage
- Support to or organisation of at least an annual event
- Promotion of selected tools and instruments
- Support to the European Commission
- Case studies and good practices



Roadmap on carcinogens



Taking action on work-related cancer

Cancer is estimated to be the leading cause of work-related deaths in the EU. It is clear that more can be done to reduce the number of cases of occupational cancer, and that's why, on 25 May 2016, six European organisations signed a covenant committing them to a voluntary action scheme to raise awareness of the risks arising from exposures to carcinogens in the workplace and exchange good practices.

The partners are:

- The Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection
- BUSINESSSEUROPE (European employers)
- The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA)
- The European Commission
- The European Trade Union Confederation
- The Netherlands Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment.

<https://osha.europa.eu/en/themes/dangerous-substances/roadmap-to-carcinogens>

Info sheet

- Key points
- Importance of workplace risk assessment, where to find information
- Hierarchy of prevention measures applied to carcinogens
- Occupational exposure limits (OELs) and monitoring
- Maintenance and incidents, emergency plans and monitoring in case of incidents
- Consultation of workers, information and training
- Health surveillance
- Notification and record-keeping
- Measures for workers who may be particularly at risk
- Rodmap on carcinogens
- Examples of guidance and information materials

Safety and health at work is everyone's concern. It's good for you. It's good for business.

 Healthy
Workplaces
MANAGE
DANGEROUS
SUBSTANCES

 European Agency
for Safety and Health
at Work



 Healthy Workplaces

Carcinogens at work

Key Points

- A carcinogen is a substance that is capable of causing, aggravating or promoting cancer in humans or animals. Some carcinogens can be inhaled, others may enter through the skin or mucous membranes. More detailed definitions are included in the European Directive and national legislation.
- Not every exposure to carcinogens will inevitably lead to cancer: some act following high-level, prolonged exposure, while others act at lower levels and following shorter exposure periods.
- There are a number of carcinogens that workers can be exposed to. Commonly known occupational carcinogens include asbestos, radon, certain pesticides, arsenic and tobacco smoke.
- Many of the carcinogens to which workers are most frequently exposed are generated by the work processes. Examples include diesel exhaust, welding fumes, crystalline silica dust and hardwood dust. Carcinogens may also be present in raw materials (including impurities), intermediates, products or by-products.
- The effects of exposure to carcinogens may occur a long time after exposure.
- Under EU legislation, particularly stringent measures — in addition to those required for other dangerous substances — must be taken by employers to prevent harm: eliminating exposure or where this is not possible strict substitution, keeping the carcinogen in a closed system, recording exposures, and stricter information and documentation requirements.
- Any detailed provisions for the occupational safety and health (OSH) management of carcinogens are laid down in national regulations. It is therefore strongly recommended that clarification of national requirements is sought.

Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) runs a Europe-wide campaign during 2018 and 2019 to promote the prevention of risks from dangerous substances in workplaces. The aim is to reduce the presence of and exposure to dangerous substances in workplaces by raising awareness of the risks and of effective ways of preventing them.

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ENTERPRISE CASE STUDIES - OVERVIEW



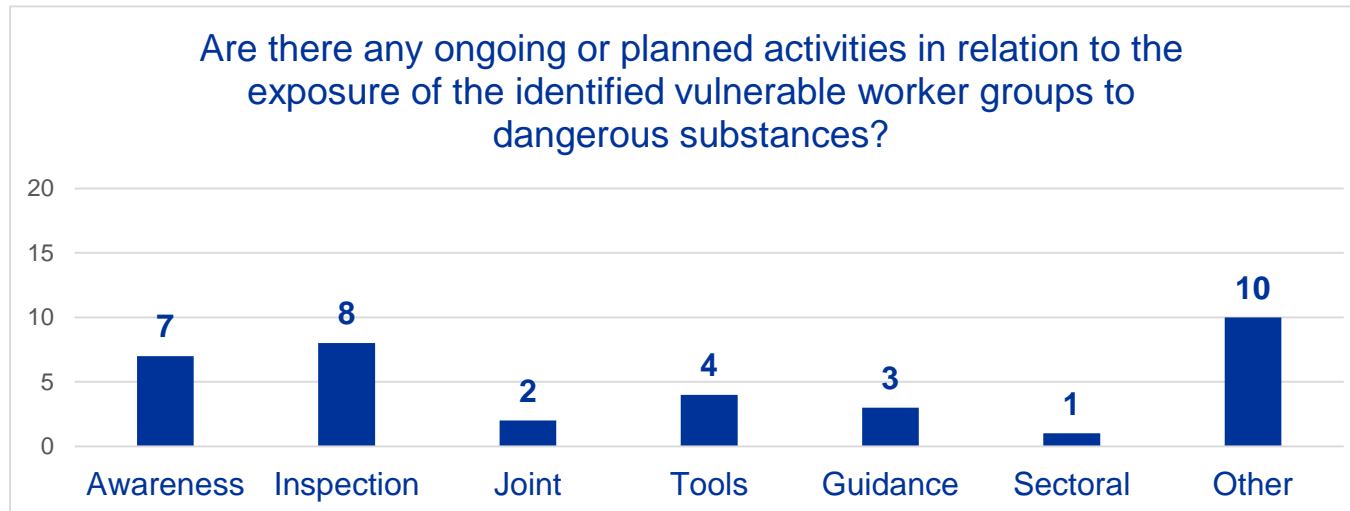
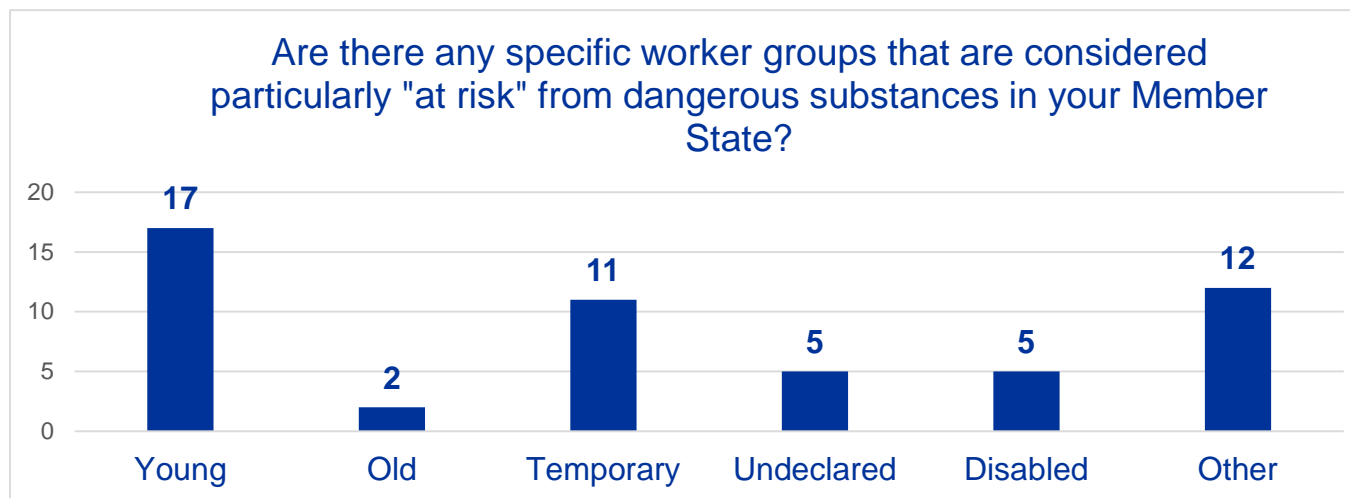
- Ensuring safety at a pesticide manufacturing plant through effective maintenance
- Replacing hazardous resin with 3D printing to make moulds
- Aiming for zero harm through training and communication
- Controlling exposure to dangerous chemicals when treating surgical instruments
- Managing the risks posed by hazardous chemicals in a pharmaceutical company
- Integrating chemical safety into efficient manufacturing
- Managing the risks posed by hazardous chemicals in a pharmaceutical company
- Implementation of a chemical and hazardous waste management system in higher education and research
- Educating young people about working safely with chemicals
- No Time to Lose campaign



- Preventing exposures to diesel engine emissions and other exhaust gases during car inspection
- Training OSH experts in using EU legislation on chemicals in practice
- Substitution of carcinogenic and neurotoxic solvents used for tanning
- Controlling chemicals in the cleaning sector — less is more
- Minimising formaldehyde exposure through substitution of resins
- Controlling worker exposure to chemicals during adhesive manufacturing
- Limiting exposure to dangerous substances in the cleaning sector
- Minimising influence of residual contamination after illegal narcotics production on human health
- How to stop using CMR solvent (Perchloroethylen) to characterise coated aggregates for recycling in paved surfaces.
- Responsible handling of asbestos-containing putty in the glazier trade
- Dust reduction in potato sorting
- Substituting Hazardous Chemical Agents and introducing prevention improvements (hairdressing)
- Safe work practices for advanced drilling in materials containing carbon nanotubes.

Pre-campaign survey - Worker groups “at risk”

- Pregnant and breastfeeding, early pregnancy
- Women in fertile age
- Maintenance
- Workers with chronic diseases
- Green jobs
- Women
- Non-standard working arrangements
- Migrant
- Hairdressers (cosmetics use)
- Poor awareness of asbestos among young workers
- Young workers and biocides
- Untrained workers
- **Training of labour inspectors**



Survey among our Focal Points - Actions

- Vocational school visits – Truck: game, NAPO film, quiz
Day of chemical safety at work for primary school children
- Inspection campaigns, e.g. rel. to specific carcinogens, such as Cr(VI)
- Exposure assessment – inspection and measurement
- Training courses for labour inspectors
- Training, guidance/tools, incl. linked to new legislation
- Health surveillance incl. spec. guidance, e.g. those formerly exposed to occupational carcinogens
- National or regional strategies, e.g. on the prevention of occ. diseases
- **Includes REACH/CLP, e.g. focus on safety data sheets and labelling, and how to translate info for workplaces**



Survey among our Focal Points - Focus

- **SMEs**
- **Groups:** young construction workers, young people.
- **Sectors:** agriculture; aquaculture; basic chemistry; cleaning; construction, engineering, hairdressers; healthcare; leather; metallurgy/ metalworking; repair of cars and motorcycles; rubber & plastics; transport (road, sea and rail); wood.
- **Substances:** asbestos, benzene, classified CMR substances, chromium(VI), diesel/DME, nickel, UV, welding fumes, silica, (hard)wood dust.



Pre-campaign survey - What are considered to be the main concerns for micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in your Member State relating to dangerous substances?

- Lack of awareness
- Lack of information
- Not understanding legislation
- Confusion with other legislation (REACH)
- Not understanding safety data sheets
- Lack of expertise
- Lack of qualified personnel
- Lack of access to coherent information
- Exposure control at the workplace
- Training of workers
- Information they get is too general (not applicable, not practical).
- Substitution



Thank you for your attention!

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