E-tools

Purpose of the Meeting & Quick update on the e-tools activity
Bilbao, 9 June 2015
E-tools: the context

- Online interactive tools ("e-tools") are the result of the evolution of computer technology and Web use practices
- The OSH sector is no stranger to this trend/evolution
- Many OSH actors have already developed such tools
- EU Strategic Framework on OSH 2014-2020 (6.6.2014) mentions IT based tools
- E-tools’ main (but non only) purposes:
  - to facilitate compliance with legislation
  - to foster the development of a health and safety culture
What are OSH e-tools?

- An electronic tool – not paper-based
- Interactive – user has to drive process
  - User can record data (e.g. noise level)
  - User can enter information (e.g. type in data)
  - User makes decisions (e.g. select options in software)
- Output is tailored to user needs or data entered
- Focuses on health and safety issues
  - Can overlap to other themes (e.g. environment protection)

- Initial definition: Requires refinement
- OSH apps are just one type of “e-tools”
Preliminary typology of e-tools
Added value of e-tools (1)

- Empower companies (especially MSEs), allowing in-house prevention
- Provide solutions or support to actions for prevention in the workplace
- Help identify the hazards
- Easy to use, interactive, easy to access
- Associated with innovation
  - Use on mobile technologies / Internet based
- Potential for monitoring use of tools
Added value of e-tools (2)

- **Perform an awareness-raising function**
  - Can be used in context of a campaign
  - Can mobilise actors (social partners, inspectorates)
- **E-tools statistics can be used as a project indicator**
- **E-tools can provide “big and important data”**
  - Anonymous data to monitor OSH policy performance
  - Feedback on e-tools’ effectiveness / functionality
- **Offer a didactic/methodological dimension**
- **Attractive for young people (workers, students)**
- **Online diffusion and dissemination**
  - Web and social media
- **Allows relationships to be built with end-users**
Taking into account the added value of e-tools ...

- Their number will most probably increase in the forthcoming years
- OSH institutions / actors will consider or are already considering the development of such tools
- There is a common/share perception that:
  - Ministries, Labour Inspectorates, Trade unions; employers’ organisations; OSH national institutes... have to be involved in the process of developing and disseminating tools of good quality and of putting them at the disposal of end users for free;
  - there is a need / room for:
    • building on the experience of others;
    • adopting / adapting existing tools (instead of developing them from scratch) or build new e-tools based on the experience of others;
    • developing the tools in synergy/cooperation.
Purpose of this meeting

- Put together the main actors concerned
  - Increasing general awareness of OSH apps
  - Fostering networking, sharing of knowledge / ideas / information

- Gather feedback / requests / proposals from the participants to help define EU-OSHA’s policy / project on e-tools

- Share with you what EU-OSHA is already doing on this specific activity
Quick update on the E-tools activity

- EU-OSHA’s decided to involve its main stakeholders in the task of setting up its policy / project on e-tools
  - Discussions / presentations in internal meetings (with Board Members)
  - Specific seminars (like this one or the one held in Paris last year)
  - Liaising with networks like PEROSH / ILO,.. already involved in the task of developing these tools

- By October 2015 (and based on the information, proposals gathered) EU-OSHA will submit a first proposal (e-tools policy) to be discussed at Agency level

- End 2015 will have a policy on the topic and then we will start planning the activities / initiatives to be carried out over the forthcoming years