



# E-Tools and OiRA

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# E-tools: the context

- Online interactive tools (“e-tools”) are the result of the evolution of computer technology and Web use
- 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) target audience: micro and small companies
  - to facilitate compliance with legislation
  - to foster the development of a health and safety culture



**TOOL USERS**

Micro and Small Companies



# E-tools in occupational safety and health

## What?

- **Electronic**
- **Interactive**
- **Output is tailored to user needs or data entered**
- **Focus on health and safety**
  - But need not be just OSH

## Why?

- **Accessible and attractive**
- **Focus on user needs**
- **Easy to use**
- **Empowering**
- **Less paper (potentially)**
- **Identify hazards**
- **Assess risks**
- **Suggest solutions**
- **Monitoring performance**
- **(Emergency response)**

# Discussion points

## ▪ Free?

- What is free?
- Better to say “not for profit” / “non-commercial”?

## ▪ Credible?

- Credibility of tool is based recognition of expert “name”
- Tool creation often by MSEs, so how can synergy be made between developer and “credible name”?

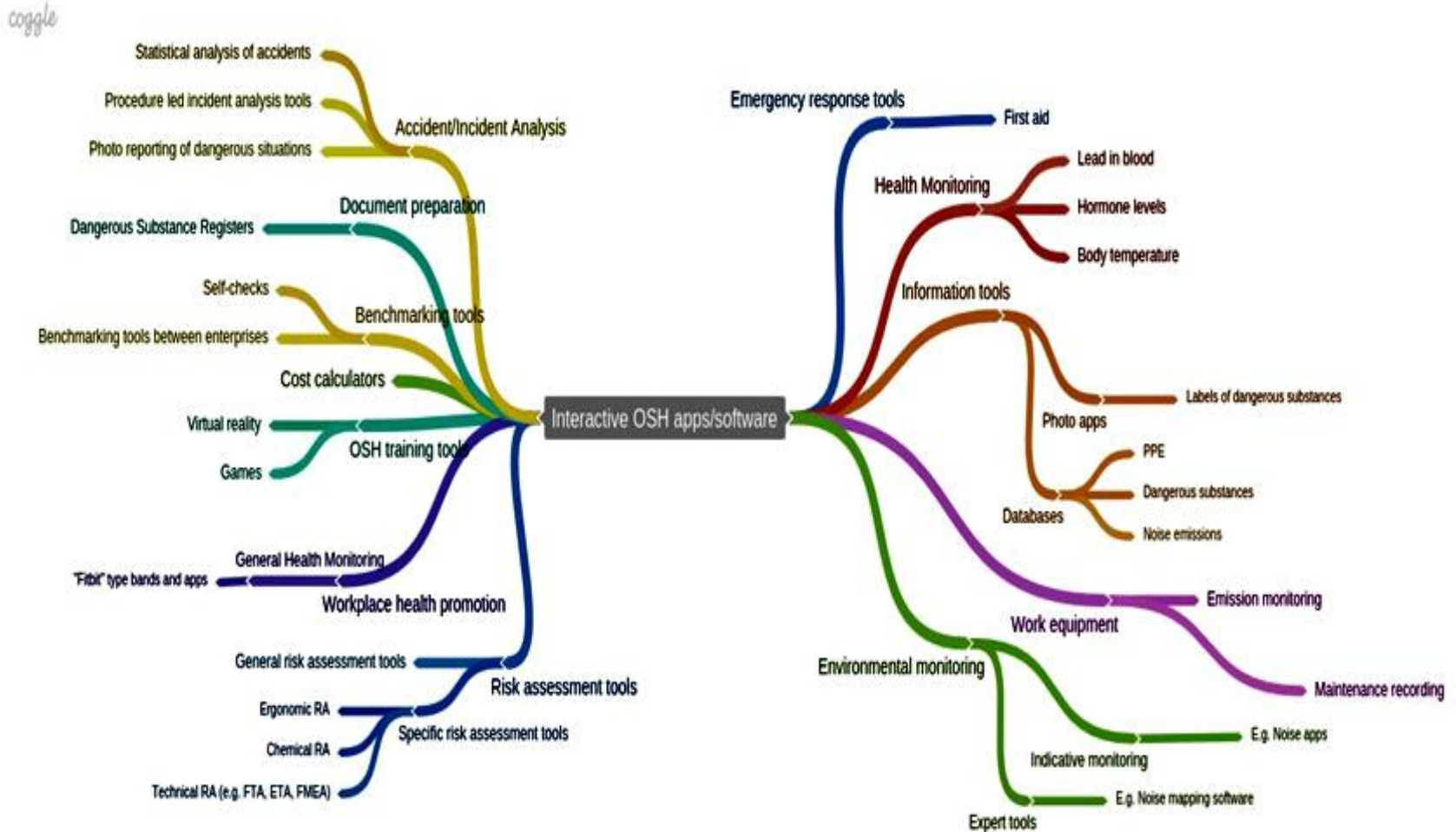
## ▪ Quality?

- What is a good tool?
- What about tool misuse / input of incorrect data?

## ▪ Focus?

- Expert v “non-expert” tools
- Where should support for tool development be focused?

# Discussion 5: typology of e-tools



# Perceptions about e-tools

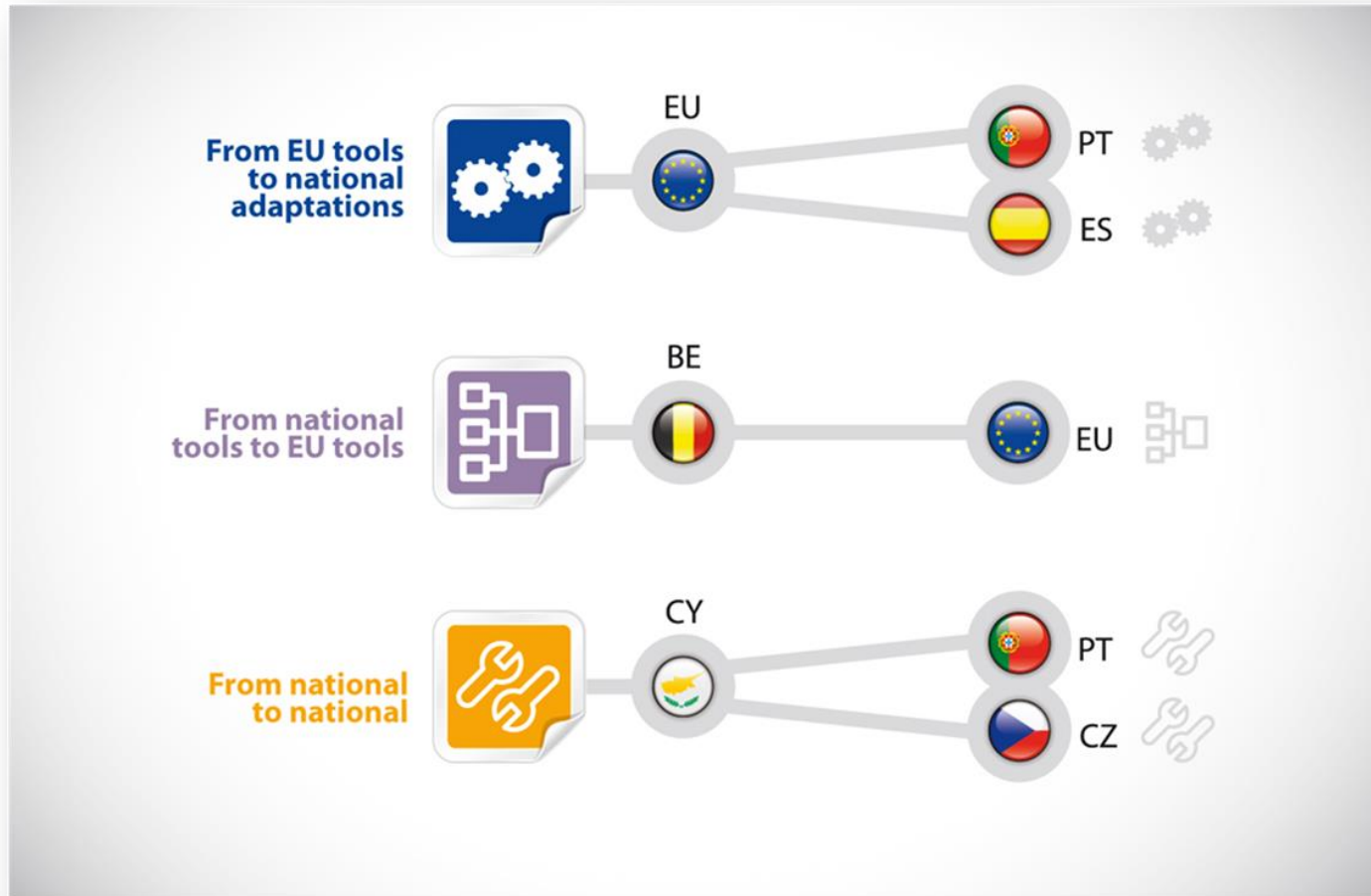
**There is a common/shared perception that:**

- **Public institutions and social partners should be involved in:**
  - developing and disseminating tools of good quality  
**AND**
  - putting them at the disposal of end users for free
- **There is a need / room for:**
  - Adopting / adapting existing tools (instead of developing them from scratch)
  - Using the experience of others when creating e-tools
  - Developing the tools in synergy/cooperation.

# Challenges of e-tools

- **Need to be in the language of the end user**
  - Including “jargon” of the industry
- **Misuse of tools**
- **Poor data quality**
  - “Rubbish in – Rubbish out” systems
- **Need critical mass of users**
- **Data protection issues when collecting information**
- **Require ongoing support**

# E-tool example 1 – OiRA



How tools are shared



## E-tool example 2 - Noise exposure and light phone apps

- Development time: 150-200 hours
- Cost:  
Noise Exposure: 23 000 €  
Light: 43 000 €

Developed by the Swedish Environment Authority (SWEA)

More info available at:

<http://www.perosh.eu/events/event/how-can-new-media-and-new-technologies-improve-the-dissemination-of-osh-knowledge-and-to-measure-relevance-and-impact/>



# How EU-OSHA can facilitate e-tools

- **Using the EU-OSHA website and OSHWiki**
- **Facilitating a specific network**
  - E.g. IRAT network (sharing information about Online risk assessment tools)
  - <http://www.oiraproject.eu/partners/irat-network>
- **Using networks and Campaigns**
  - To find out about existing tools
  - Promotion by EU-OSHA networks (e.g. focal points)
- **Connecting interested parties – in EU and beyond**
  - Organizing meetings or exchanging contact details
- **Promoting e-tools as part of the European Strategic framework in presentations to policy-makers**

# The role of EU-OSHA

- Stimulating support for tools
- Providing a voice to reach beyond the EU
- Giving a European perspective to tool development
- Providing a contact point for new tool developers
- Providing platforms for promotion
- EU-OSHA cannot fund the running of a community



# EU-OSHA activities on e-tools 2015

- **Continue development of online content**
- **Organisation of an EU e-tools event on OSH phone apps – Bilbao, June 2015**
- **Identification of potential funding sources for development and dissemination (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter)**
- **Hold an e-tools seminar in the framework of USE2015**
  - <http://www.useconference.com/>
- **Define EU-OSHA policy on e-tools (4<sup>th</sup> quarter) from**
  - Feedback from e-tools event
  - USE2015 seminar outcomes
  - Input from EU-OSHA stakeholders (e.g. Advisory groups)