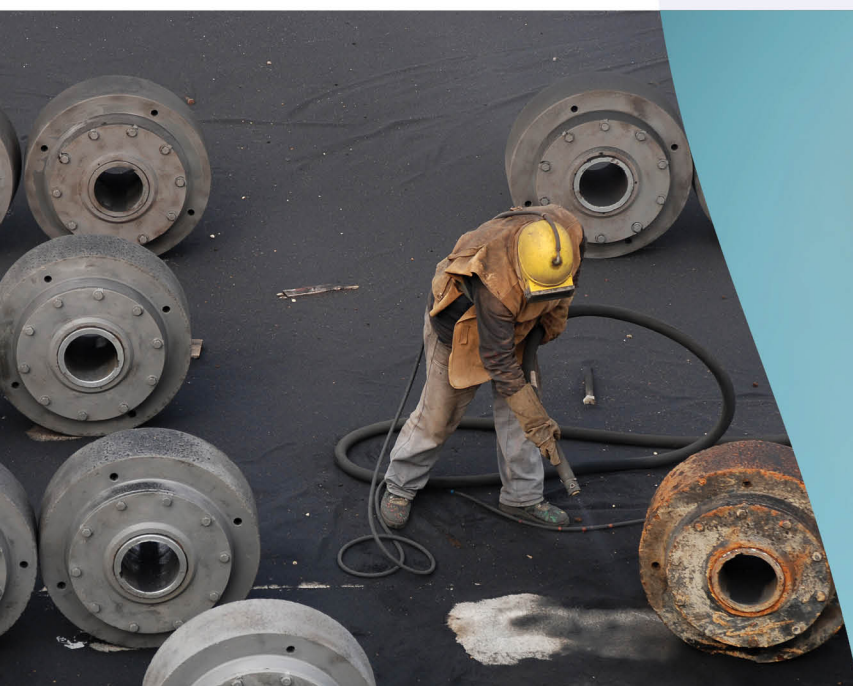




European Agency for Safety and Health at Work



Summary Annual Report **2017**

The year 2017 was an important year for the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) and for the European Union (EU). In the year that the 60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome was celebrated, Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, announced the [European Pillar of Social Rights](#). EU-OSHA welcomes this pillar, which focuses on equal opportunities, inclusive growth and fair working conditions — including the right to safe, healthy and well-adapted workplaces. Throughout the year, the Agency organised several major events, including the [Healthy Workplaces for All Ages campaign summit](#). A [conference on risk assessment tools for micro and small enterprises \(MSEs\)](#), organised jointly with the European Commission, was also held to discuss the value of the Agency's [Online interactive Risk Assessment \(OiRA\)](#) project and share good practice in the implementation of OiRA tools. EU-OSHA also presented the latest findings of its [costs and benefits of occupational safety and health \(OSH\)](#) project at the [World Congress on Safety and Health at Work](#) in Singapore and showed its continued commitment to the [Roadmap on Carcinogens](#) through the many awareness-raising activities it organised. Another highlight in 2017 was receiving a [European Ombudsman Award for Good Administration](#).

1 Anticipating change

The 2-year foresight study '[New and emerging OSH risks associated with Information and Communication Technology \(ICT\) by 2025](#)' continued in 2017. The aim is to provide information to EU policy-makers, Member State governments and social partners on the new and emerging risks identified, as well as to encourage debate on the policies and measures that might be capable of preventing or managing such risks.

A report resulting from this project, which explores possible future scenarios for 2025 in relation to the impact on OSH of the digitalisation of the economy, was published in 2017: [Key trends and drivers of change in information and communication technologies and work location](#). The final report, a summary, a brochure and cartoons presenting the four scenarios are to be published in 2018.

The foresight project had identified work intermediated by digital platforms as a growing area of interest. A report on this subject, [Regulating the occupational safety and health impact of the online platform economy](#), was published in response to strong interest from EU-OSHA's stakeholders.

Following presentations to and discussions with [EU-OSHA's national focal points](#), revised versions of two expert review papers, on [3D printing](#) and the [monitoring technology in the workplace](#), were published in July 2017.



2 Facts and figures

2.1 ESENER

Work on the second edition of the European Survey of Enterprises on New and Emerging Risks (ESENER-2), which aims to describe the current state of OSH management in European workplaces, concluded in 2017. Throughout the year, national events, conferences and seminars were held to promote the findings from ESENER-2, and an external evaluation of the survey was completed.

A report on [worker participation in the management of OSH](#) based on the results of ESENER-2 was published in April 2017. The findings of this qualitative analysis of establishments from seven EU Member States and different sectors support an association between management commitment to OSH, worker participation and good workplace practices. A [summary](#) of this report was published in several languages.

The results of a valuable collaboration between EU-OSHA, Eurostat and Eurofound were also published, in a report entitled [Health and safety risks at the workplace: a joint analysis of three major surveys](#). By combining the findings of ESENER-2, the EU Labour Force Survey ad hoc module on accidents at work and other work-related health problems, and the Sixth European Working Conditions Survey, this study incorporated workers' and enterprises' perspectives on OSH to provide a comprehensive overview of the state of OSH in Europe.

2.2 OSH overviews

In 2017, work continued on a wide-ranging project exploring MSE-specific management practices and policies in the EU. The latest findings of this project were published in two reports in 2017. One provides an overview of [how OSH can be supported in MSEs through policies, strategies and practical measures](#), based on the analysis of 44 good practice examples from 12 different EU countries. The other describes the [good examples of OSH management](#) identified, detailing, for instance, how intermediaries, authorities and OSH institutions support MSEs with the management of OSH. EU-OSHA disseminated these findings at national and international levels, including at the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work.

A literature review, [Rehabilitation and return to work after cancer](#), resulting from a project on the issues faced by cancer survivors returning to work and their employers was published on World Cancer Day (4 February 2017). The final report on this project will be published in 2018. A [feasibility study on setting up a survey to measure workers' exposure to carcinogens](#) was published in December. Earlier in the year, a [literature review on the use of sentinel and alert systems to detect work-related diseases](#) was published.

EU-OSHA launched a new project in 2017, aimed at providing clear evidence that investing in OSH makes good economic sense. A report on the analysis of the first stage of this project, [Estimating the cost of work-related accidents and ill-health: an analysis of European data](#)



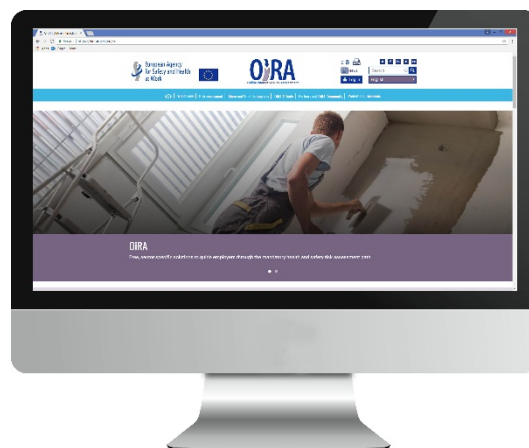
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[sources](#), was published in March. Furthermore, a cost approximation model was developed, allowing the costs of work-related accidents and illnesses to be estimated at global, EU and regional levels. These estimates were used to create a user-friendly [data visualisation tool on the value of OSH](#), which is now available online.

Ahead of the planned 2020-21 Healthy Workplaces Campaign on musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs), EU-OSHA started planning a new OSH overview aimed at improving the understanding of this major OSH issue and finding further ways of preventing work-related MSDs.

3 Tools for OSH management

[OiRA](#), a platform offering free online interactive tools that can be used to carry out workplace risk assessments, is central to EU-OSHA's efforts to reach enterprises, particularly MSEs, and support them in the management of OSH. To make it easier for intermediaries and other stakeholders to develop, access and share OiRA tools and related materials with MSEs, the OiRA website was revamped and was relaunched at the end of 2016, and promoted throughout 2017. In addition, a new [promotional toolkit](#), which contains tools — including a new Napo film and an infographic — to help stakeholders and intermediaries raise awareness of OiRA and increase the use of these tools by MSEs, was also promoted during the year. The OiRA community, of 16 national and 14 EU-level sectoral partners, was very active in 2017; for example, 19 new tools were published, bringing the total number to 137, and the number of risk assessments carried out using the tools rose from around 22,000 in October 2016 to almost 65,000 by the end of 2017.



4 Raising awareness

4.1 Campaigns



The 2016-17 [Healthy Workplaces for All Ages campaign](#) was very successful, in large part thanks to the efforts of EU-OSHA's [national focal points](#), [official campaign partners](#) and [campaign media partners](#).

One of the main products launched in aid of the campaign was the '[Safer and healthier work at any age](#)' data visualisation tool, which enables the user to find facts and figures on the European workforce for individual Member

States and the EU as a whole. The '[Healthy Workplaces for All Ages](#)' e-guide continued to be promoted throughout 2017 and a major report related to the campaign, [Towards age-friendly work in Europe: a life-course perspective on work and ageing from EU agencies](#), was produced in collaboration with [Cedefop](#), [EIGE](#) and [Eurofound](#).

Several good practice exchange events took place in 2017, including a 2-day event in Brussels in March, which was organised by EU-OSHA and comprised workshops and plenary sessions on safe, healthy and sustainable work. Events were also held by campaign partners at their own premises, for example in Italy and Germany.

The Good Practice Awards were held in Valetta, Malta, on 26 April 2017. Nine organisations received awards and another nine were commended. A [booklet presenting the awarded and commended examples](#) was produced to coincide with the awards ceremony.

The European Week for Safety and Health at Work took place between 23 and 27 October, with a record number of people engaging with campaign activities on social media using the #EUhealthyworkplaces hashtag.

The 2-day [Healthy Workplaces Summit](#), which concluded the 2016-17 campaign, took place in Bilbao in November. In addition to the plenary sessions, there were four interactive parallel sessions, with audience participation encouraged through polls and Q&A sessions. The more than 350 delegates who attended the summit had the opportunity to reflect on the campaign, exchange good practices and network.

Another key component of the 2016-17 campaign was the European Campaign Assistance Package (ECAP), which supported national focal points in organising over 200 campaign-related activities.

The 2018-19 campaign — [Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances](#) — aims to raise awareness of the risks posed by dangerous substances in the workplace and will promote a culture of risk prevention. Preparations for the campaign were undertaken during 2017, including the launch of a countdown page on the [new Healthy Workplaces Campaign website](#), with the campaign officially kicking off in April 2018.

4.2 Awareness-raising activities

In November 2017, the [Healthy Workplaces Film Award](#) was presented to joint winners: *Before the Bridge* by Lewis Wilcox (USA) and *Turtle Shells* by Tuna Kaptan (Germany). Another film, *Alien* by Morteza Atabaki (Turkey), received a special mention from the jury.



As it was Napo's 20th anniversary, EU-OSHA created a special anniversary logo for the Napo website and a 'happy birthday' clip was also produced. In addition to two new Napo films, on the [OiRA project](#) and on [safety and health for professional drivers](#), workplace safety and health was promoted to commuters through a Napo campaign on the metro in Bilbao.

EU-OSHA participated in a number of important awareness-raising events in 2017, including the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work in Singapore in October and the 35th A+A International Congress and Trade Fair in Düsseldorf, Germany.

In terms of media activity, 2017 was a busy year for EU-OSHA, with 15 news stories and news releases, more than 70 articles and responses to requests from media outlets, 858 online clippings and over 8,000 posts on social media.

[EU-OSHA's corporate website](#) was active throughout 2017, publishing 64 multilingual highlights and 112 news items, and receiving more than 1.2 million unique visitors. A further 14 highlights and 18 news articles were published on the campaign website, which had received more than 95,000 visitors by the end of 2017. EU-OSHA continued to strengthen its presence on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#), with almost daily social media posts. The official campaign partner good practice exchange event, the Healthy Workplaces Summit and the European Week for Safety and Health all resulted in a great deal of online activity.

Multilingualism is a cornerstone of the EU and vital to EU-OSHA's success, so one of EU-OSHA's highlights of 2017 was being awarded the [European Ombudsman Award for Good Administration](#) for a joint project with [EUIPO](#) and the [EU Translation Centre](#) to develop a tool to improve the translation management of multilingual websites.

5 Networking knowledge

EU-OSHA re-formulated the long-term objectives of [OSHwiki](#), its online multilingual encyclopaedia of OSH information. New articles were added to the platform and existing ones were edited throughout the year.

In 2017, EU-OSHA collaborated with the European Commission in the development and launch of the pilot version of an EU-wide OSH information system, which will involve collecting and collating data on a series of indicators related to OSH, for instance on national OSH strategies and work-related accidents in the EU, ultimately resulting in an interactive visualisation of the data.

A project to collect information on OSH strategies at the Member State level neared completion in 2017, with the findings intended to feed into the development of the new OSH Information System.

A 2-day seminar on e-tools to prevent the risks posed by dangerous substances was held in Bilbao in September.

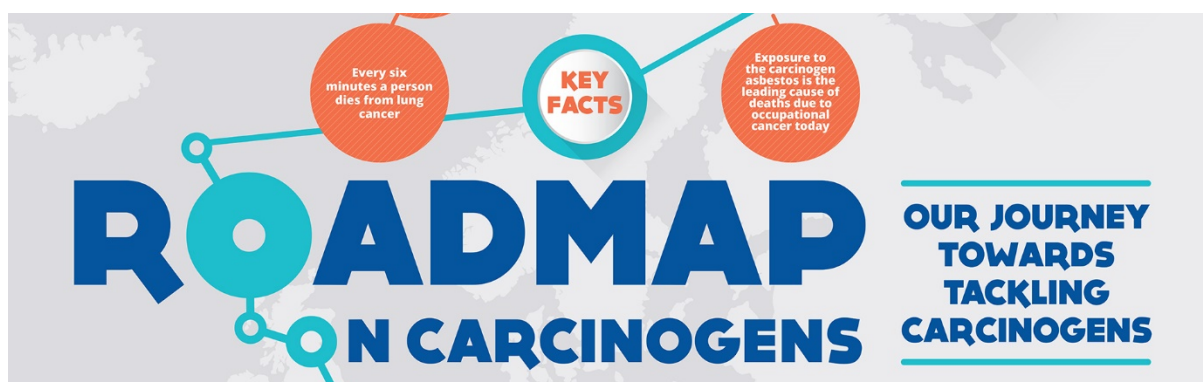
Together with the Directorate-General for Employment, EU-OSHA published the [VeSafe e-guide](#) on work-related risks posed by vehicles. These risks account for 29 % of all fatal occupational accidents in Europe.



6 Networking and corporate communication

In 2017, the [Governing Board](#) met twice, adopting the 2018-20 draft programming document, and the [Bureau](#) met to discuss the longer term direction of the Agency. EU-OSHA also met with the Tools and Awareness Raising Advisory Group and the OSH Knowledge Advisory Group to discuss campaign matters and other ongoing projects.

EU-OSHA continued to network and foster close relationships with various European institutions and other European stakeholders throughout 2017. The Agency fully supports the creation of the [European Pillar of Social Rights](#), which clearly defines safety and health at work as a fundamental social right, and is working closely with the Commission on it. Furthermore, in 2017 EU-OSHA provided constructive input to the debate on the establishment of a European Labour Authority, welcomed a delegation of MEPs on a study visit to Bilbao and continued to dedicate resources to the [Roadmap on Carcinogens](#).



EU-OSHA highly values its good working relationships with its partners, for example its [national focal points](#) and the [Enterprise Europe Network \(EEN\)](#). For the first time, the national focal points of the Benelux countries held a joint campaign event, in Belgium, and the Nordic focal points also met to develop cooperative regional activities. In 2017, EU-OSHA continued to work closely with the EEN, and the EEN OSH Ambassadors will be involved in the launch and implementation of the 2018-19 Healthy Workplaces campaign.

EU-OSHA has been helping the Western Balkan countries and Turkey to integrate into the European OSH system; funding under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance was renewed in 2017. The focal point meetings, training sessions and workshops under this activity have led to an improved understanding of European OSH practices and progressed social dialogue across the region.

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) contributes to making Europe a safer, healthier and more productive place to work. The Agency researches, develops, and distributes reliable, balanced, and impartial safety and health information and organises pan-European awareness raising campaigns. Set up by the European Union in 1994 and based in Bilbao, Spain, the Agency brings together representatives from the European Commission, Member State governments, employers' and workers' organisations, as well as leading experts in each of the EU Member States and beyond.

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