Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2018-19

Manage dangerous substances in the workplace
HWC Summit 2019 Bilbao

Safety and health at work is everyone’s concern. It’s good for you. It’s good for business.
PARALLEL SESSION 2:
GOOD PRACTICES AND INTERVENTIONS

How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

Emília Telo, MSc, PhD
emilia.telo@act.gov.pt
pfn.eu-osha@act.gov.pt
ACT | PFN EU-OSHA
PORTUGAL
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

Employers, managers, supervisors, workers and their representatives need to know about the risks to workers’ health in the workplace and how to manage those risks.

Effective communication about them is a challenge.
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

REACH aims to improve the amount and quality of information available on chemicals and defines new provisions for communication throughout the supply chain. CLP uses this information to help identify accurate classifications and hazard communication for the user.
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

REACH
CLP
Exposure scenarios
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

REACH and or CLP are not (fully) applicable to some types of substances, for example
• medicines such as cytostatic drugs,
• cosmetics such as hairdressing products, and
• food and feed stuffs.

Users may then not have access to SDS or labelled chemicals but may receive the information on hazards and safe use from their suppliers in a different form.
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

REACH and or CLP are not (fully) applicable to some types of substances, for example:

selective collection of solid waste
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

REACH and or CLP are not (fully) applicable to some types of substances, for example:

deburring  stone cut  some waste

The chemical agents directive specifies that employers shall obtain additional information that is needed for workplace risk assessment from the supplier or other readily available sources.
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

Under workplace legislation, employers must have an overview of all these risk factors and how they may interact to put workers at risk. They must also consider all the products, even when those are used as intermediaries, stored or transported, and all relevant tasks.

Workers in many modern industrial settings have long faced a multitude of chemical threats to their health and safety—some of them obvious, many more barely perceptible.
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

It is important to note that hazards depend on how and under which circumstances substances are used at the workplace.

[Images showing workers in an industrial setting, labeled as 'acute' and 'chronic'.]

Risk Assessment
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

Flour dust is not commonly perceived as dangerous, but it may become a **health hazard** to bakers, or may even cause **explosions**.

**Cleaning - Use of vacuum cleaner**

**Manual weighing**
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

The employer’s responsibility to ensure that workers and their representatives are informed and trained about:

- hazardous properties of the chemicals;
- the level, type and duration of exposure and the circumstances of work;
- appropriate precautions to safeguard themselves and other workers in the workplace, including what to do if there is an accident (e.g. spillage) or emergency;
- the effect of risk-management procedures;
- relevant occupational exposure limit (OEL) values;
- conclusions to be drawn from any health surveillance and exposure assessment already undertaken.

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The employer shall ensure that workers are aware of changes in processes or substances used.
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There are specific rules for protecting young people and pregnant or breastfeeding workers and workers who have recently given birth, and for informing them.

For example:

Pregnant and lactating women are kept away from workplaces where the following chemicals are used:


(Note: the drawings are not all on the same scale).
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Employers must keep records about exposure and health surveillance of workers who are likely to be exposed to hazardous substances, especially carcinogens and mutagens, and give workers access to their personal data.

for example:
Specific tests to ensure that exposure to substances such as lead, nickel and thiocyanates is controlled.
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Member States are entitled to

**To Support to Hygiene and Safety Technicians**

GUIDES
- Control of Exposure to Chemical Agents
- Selection of Individual Protection Equipment (PPE)
- Selection of Protective Gloves - Chemical Hazards
- Selection of Respiratory Protection Apparatus

SHEETS
- Chemical Risk Assessment
- From Manufacture to Use of Chemicals. A Complementarity of Approaches.
- Communication of Chemical Risks in the Supply Chain
- Safety technician at work

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To Support to Hygiene and Safety

Technicians and Medical Surveillance

Technical Guide # 2
Health surveillance of workers exposed to carcinogens, mutagens and substances toxic to reproduction

Integrated Risk Assessment Form

How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

To Support to Hygiene and Safety Technicians and Medical Surveillance

Technical Guide # 1
Surveillance of the health of workers exposed to ionizing radiation

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European Lung Foundation - occupational quiz

http://yourlungsatwork.europeanlung.org/pt/index

This quiz is for people who are worried that their workplace might be affecting their breathing or lung health.
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10 FACTSHEETS:
- ASBESTOS
- BENZENE
- VINYL CHLORIDE
- CHROMIUM VI
- FORMALDEHYDE
- WELDING FUMES
- DIESEL ENGINE EXHAUST
- POLYCHYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS - PAH
- SILICA DUST
- HARDWOOD DUST

8 FACTSHEETS:
- ACRYLAMIDE
- BERYLLIUM
- CADMIUM
- ETHYLENE OXIDE
- HYDRAZONE
- LEAD
- NICKEL
- TRICHLORETHYLENE

https://roadmaponcarcinogens.eu/

In Portuguese
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

The European Campaign HWC materials

www.healthy-workplaces.eu
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

Type of exposure

E-tools

It's enough
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE WORKER?

go to the worker on the **shop floor** and observe his behavior towards dangerous substances

FACE to FACE

continuously and permanently

OHS expert - worker
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

Install touch screen computer kiosks at various factory sites so that workers and contractors can refer to the SDS. These kiosks must have their own directory for the Occupational Safety and Health System, subdivided into folders.
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The employer should adjust the recommended measures from the safety data sheets to the specific conditions of each workplace.

- Preparation of a summary sheet
- Put next to the workstation where this product is used
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Conduct weekly or daily activities called "Safety Dialogues", with various topics related to OSH, where the subject of Chemical management is sometimes addressed and discussed. “Safety Dialogues” are quick meetings of about 10 minutes at the workplace.
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360° vision in Hazardous Substances management

- Waste Management:
  - Glues
  - Agents of cleaning
  - Technical gases
  - Solvents
  - Water treatment

- Industrial hygiene:
  - Fire safety
  - Lubricating greases
  - Oils
  - Caustic
  - Inks
  - Acids
  - Welds
  - Reagents
  - Transport of Dangerous Goods
  - Water treatment

- Occupational Health
  - How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

There is clear evidence to suggest that SDSs are an ineffective way of communicating information to employees.
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

**Training / Awareness raising / Information**

**New Employees - 2 hours General Training in Chemical Safety**
- Workplace - specific training on each chemical used

The supporting document is a Safety Instruction which is ultimately signed on the back.

Specialized training for roles such as ATEX and Fire Prevention or ADR Officer.

The Resp. Department have every 2 years training in EHS Legal Requirements, which always includes the topic of chemical safety.
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

Do all workers know:

- about the risk assessment of their workplace?
- what hazards they are being exposed to?
- how they may be affected?
- about the results of any exposure monitoring or health surveillance?
- what they have to do to keep themselves and others safe (i.e. how the risks are to be controlled)?
- how to make full and proper use of all the control measures provided?
- how to check and spot when things are wrong and to whom they should report problems and defects with any control measures?
- how to carry out the foreseen maintenance and functionality checks, especially of local exhaust ventilation and other protective devices?
- about preventive and protective measures to be taken in case of maintenance work?
- about first aid and emergency procedures?
- what they should do in the event of an accident, incident or emergency involving hazardous substances?
- how to handle waste?

Are workers involved in regular updates of risk assessment and regularly retrained?
Effectiveness

Changes in product knowledge

Attitudinal changes

Changes in risk perception

Behavioural changes

Changes in cumulative exposure
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

Training of new collaborators with approach to the theme "Use of Chemical Substances and Preparations", with the viewing of didactic films on the subject.

Host

create need and curiosity
How can we effectively communicate to workers about dangerous substances?

8 million chemicals

Used
110 000

LIMITED KNOWLEDGE

Well tested
8 000

Black list
2000

1700-1800 OLE

Emilia Telo

C 1098 carcinogenic confirmation in humans H350 H351
M 555 mutagenic (in germ cells) H340 H341
R 313 reprotoxics H360 H361 H362

www.healthy-workplaces.eu
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ALARA = As low as reasonably achievable
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Thank You!

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#EUhealthyworkplaces