



European Commission

Health and Safety policy and international convergence. Specific application to the mining industry Brussels, 20th October 2010

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Driver for improving health and safety:

“The underlying goal is to protect the health and safety of workers and ensure that at the end of his/her working day, the worker will return to his/her family in good health”.

Fundamental human right!





- **Work related accidents and diseases**
2.3 million fatalities per year world wide
Economic loss of 4% GDP. (ILO estimate)

Huge burden to society as a whole.
We are all affected.





- **Multinational employers.**

All workers should have same standards of H&S irrespective of location.

Derived from Company mission statement or operational standards.

- **Multinational suppliers of equipment.**

Safety and security of worker should be common.

Requirements should be common.

Economies of scale.





- **Sharing of accident data.**

Identify problem tasks, more data quicker identification of problem.

- **Define best practices**

Identify generic solutions, influence change, through standards, manufacturers.

- **Continuous monitoring.**

Review regularly to avoid complacency and incorporate new knowledge.





- Global initiatives should be developed.

“Seoul Declaration on Safety and Health at Work”.

All have a vested interest.

Government, employer and worker.





Tripartite consultation at EU level through
Advisory Committee on Safety and Health.
(ACSH)

DG EMPL F4 also has bilateral cooperation
with: USA, Japan, China, India, Chile.

Limited in scope

China, focus is on coal mine H&S, assisted
by Standing Working Party for Extractive
Industries. (SWP)





Individual directives are derived from the framework directive to encourage improvements on safety and health at work

- Chemical Agents
- Carcinogens
- Biological Agents
- Asbestos

Physical agents:

- Vibrations
- Noise
- EMF
- Optical Radiation
- Explosive Atmospheres “ATEX”
 - Working Time
 - Pregnant Woman
 - Young People

- Workplace
- Use of Work Equipment
- Use of Personal Protective Equipment
- Construction sites
- On Board Vessels
- Maritime Medical Assistance
- Manual Handling of Loads
- Safety Signs

“Extractive Industries”

Framework Directive 89/391/EEC

On basis of Article 137 of the EC Treaty





Risk assessment is the cornerstone of the European approach to prevent occupational accidents and ill health.

The purpose of risk assessment includes the prevention of occupational risks, and this should always be goal, it will not always be achievable in practice. Where elimination of risks is not possible, the risks should be reduced and the residual risk controlled. At a later stage, as part of a review programme, such residual risk will be reassessed and the possibility of elimination of the risk, perhaps in the light of new knowledge, can be reconsidered.





Summary of the individual directives.

Sectoral Directives :

- **Workplace (89/654/EEC)**
- **Temporary or mobile Construction sites (92/57/EEC)**
- **Extractives Industries Off-Shore & On-Shore (92/91/EEC)**
- **Mines and Quarries (92/104/EEC)**
- **On Board Vessels (93/103/EEC)**
- **Medical Assistance on Board (92/29/EEC)**

Horizontal Directives :

- **Use of Work Equipment (89/655/EEC – 95/63/EC – 2001/45/EC)**
- **Use of Personal Protective Equipment (89/656/EEC)**
- **Physical Agents: Noise (2003/10/EC) - Vibrations (2002/44/EC) –
EMF (2004/40/EC) – Optical Radiations (2004/25/EC)**
- **Manual Handling of Loads (90/269/EEC) – Display Screen Equipment (90/270/EEC)**
- **Safety and Health Signs at Work (92/58/EEC)**
- **ATEX (199/92/EC) – Biological (2000/54/EC)**
- **Chemical Agents (98/24/EC) – Asbestos (2003/18/EC) – Carcinogens (2004/37/EC)**





Individual sectoral directives

- **Mineral extracting Industries through drilling (92/91/EEC)**
(Amended by Directive 2007/30/EC)
- **Surface and underground mineral-extracting industries (92/104/EEC)**
(Amended by Directive 2007/30/EC)

Recent review of the implementation of the Directives.

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

on the practical implementation of Health and Safety at Work Directives 92/91/EEC (mineral extraction through drilling) and 92/104/EEC (surface and underground mineral extraction).

Published Brussels, 3.9.2009 reference **COM(2009) 449 final**.



Other sources of H&S information:



Publications by DG EMPLOYMENT.

Good practice guides, e.g noise, vibration, work at height, construction and to follow agriculture, small fishing vessels.

Causes and circumstances of accidents at work in the European Union.
(statistical review)

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/>

European Agency for Health and Safety at Work.

<http://osha.europa.eu/>

Role is to contribute to the improvement of working life in the European Union:

Work with governments, employers and workers to promote a risk prevention culture.

Analyse new scientific research and statistics on workplace risks.

Anticipate new and emerging risks through the [European Risk Observatory](#).

Identify and share information, good practice and advice with a wide range of audiences, such as social partners - employers' federations and trade unions.





*Thank you for
your attention*

DG EMPL F/4

