



FEB
Federation of
Enterprises in
Belgium



« Maintenance: Do It Safe »

Maintenance is important for good business

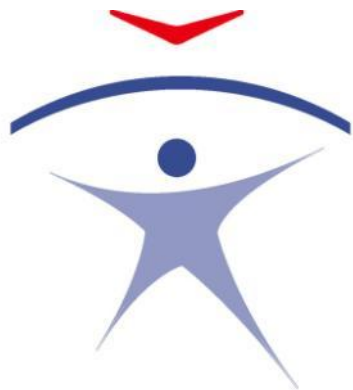
Brussels, March 22nd 2011

Ir. Kris De Meester

Manager health and safety affairs

Chairman BUSSINESSEUROPE OSH Committee

Campaign partner



Healthy Workplaces



Een gezonde werkplek



Lieux de travail sains



Campaign partner



Campaign partner



European Agency for Safety and Health at Work
Healthy Workplaces Campaign
on Safe Maintenance 2011



Campaign website

- <http://osha.europa.eu/en/campaigns/hw2010>



HEALTHY WORKPLACES
GOOD FOR YOU.
GOOD FOR BUSINESS.

MAINTENANCE GET IT RIGHT GET INVOLVED RESOURCES
ABOUT PARTNERS PRESS AND MULTIMEDIA



Catch up with our latest press releases and consult our multimedia resources!

Safe Maintenance Seminar in Maribor

16.03.2011 Getting maintenance right: Portable tools in construction

09.03.2011 UEAPME Joins the Healthy Wc



LAST CHANCE TO BECOME OFFICIAL EU CAMPAIGN PARTNER

21.03.2011

Pan-European or international organisations/companies willing to get substantially involved in the new Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2010-11 on Safe Maintenance are invited to submit their application to ...

[More news...](#)



MEETINGS OF THE SPECIALISED COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (COH) THREE TIMES PER YEAR

Brussels, Warsaw and Bilbao

Committee looking after occupational health and safety issues from CEOC members' point of view. Defining the 'added value' that the TIC companies ...

[More events...](#)

Campaign guide (all languages)

CAMPAIGN GUIDE



Healthy Workplaces

2010-2011

HEALTHY WORKPLACES.
GOOD FOR YOU. GOOD FOR BUSINESS.

**A EUROPEAN CAMPAIGN ON
SAFE MAINTENANCE**



European Agency
for Safety and Health
at Work

BUSINESSEUROPE



- A Campaign guide and factsheets
- Case studies of good practice
- Presentations and animated video clips
- News about Campaign events
- Leaflet, flyers, posters, banner, e-signature,...



88 EN FACTS
European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

Safe maintenance — Safe workers

Definition
Maintenance of equipment, plant, buildings or means of transport includes technical, administrative and managerial actions intended to keep it in, or restore it to, a state in which it can perform the required function, protecting it from failure or decline. Maintenance activities include:

- inspection
- testing
- measurement
- replacement
- adjustment
- repair
- fault detection
- replacement of parts
- servicing

A very common activity exposing workers to various hazards
Maintenance is carried out in every workplace and in all industry sectors. It is included in the everyday duties of most workers, not just maintenance technicians and engineers. Workers involved in maintenance activities may be at risk of developing:

- musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs), when performing tasks involving bending and awkward postures, occasionally in difficult environmental conditions (e.g. cold)
- respiratory problems related to exposures to asbestos — while maintaining old buildings or industrial installations
- skin and respiratory diseases due to contact with dangerous substances — greases, solvents, coolants and dusts, including carcinogenic wood dusts
- asphyxiation in confined spaces
- diseases resulting from exposure to biological hazards — hepatitis A, legionella

They also face accident risks of many types, including falls and being hit by a piece of machinery. Maintenance activities range from very minor, such as replacement of a light bulb or the toner in a printer, to major, such as periodic inspection of a power plant.

OSH outcomes of maintenance
Whether the task is small or big, it can have a serious impact on the safety and health, not only of the workers performing it, but also on others, as shown in the following examples:

- An accident/injury may occur during the maintenance process — workers performing maintenance on a machine can be injured if the machine is accidentally switched on, they may be exposed to radiation or dangerous substances, or hit by a moving part of the machine or be at risk of developing an MSD.
- Poor quality maintenance can cause safety problems — using the wrong parts for replacement or repair may result in serious accidents and injuries to workers as well as damage the equipment.
- Lack of maintenance may not only shorten the lifespan of equipment or buildings, but also cause accidents — for example, unrepaired damage to the floor of a warehouse may cause a forklift accident, injuring the driver, those around and also damaging the goods being moved.

Five basic rules for safe maintenance
Maintenance is a process that starts before the task itself begins, and finishes when the work has been checked, signed off and the task documentation has been completed. Participation of workers and/or their representatives in all stages and aspects of this process increases not only the safety of the process, but also the quality of work. The five steps to safe maintenance are further explained hereunder.

HEALTHY WORKPLACES GOOD FOR YOU. GOOD FOR BUSINESS. <http://hw.osha.europa.eu>

Good business...

- Maintenance management: an asset for successful businesses



Arguments



Good maintenance = good business

- Ensure continuity of operations
- Impact on safety
- Impact on health and wellbeing (working conditions: noise, illumination, climate, dust,...)
- Energy savings, avoids spills of natural resources (greening economy!)
- Structural and planned approach to maintenance:
 - ✓ Optimizing prevention vs. repair
 - ✓ Optimizing the “amount” of maintenance
 - ✓ Investing in reliability = cost cutting in maintenance
 - ✓ Optimizing in spare parts
- Optimizing life time extension of equipment vs. new equipment
- Life Cycle Costing: include maintenance aspect in investment projects and decisions
- Avoid disruptions in the maintenance chain (contractors-suppliers)
- From maintenance to asset management: better control the risks of the capital invested - value driven maintenance