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OSHA-European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

Brussels, 20.03.2018

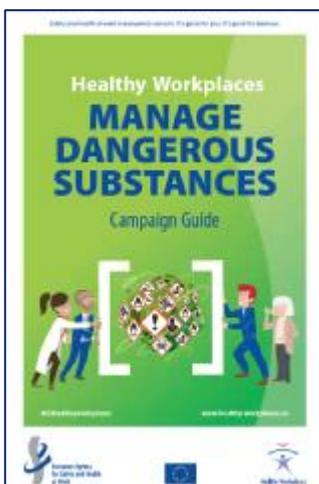
Healthy Workplaces-MANAGE DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES

Presentation of the OSHA Campaign 2018-2019

With a view to encouraging international and European organisations and companies to join the campaign network, a meeting for the presentation of the campaign was organised in Brussels on 20.03.2018.

The specific objectives of the 2018-19 Healthy Workplaces Campaign are:

- to raise awareness of dangerous substances in the workplace by providing relevant facts and figures;
- to promote risk assessment and the hierarchy of prevention measures with practical tools and resources;
- to increase awareness of, in particular, the risks associated with workplace exposure to carcinogens;
- to ensure that the needs of specific groups of workers are met through, for instance, good practice examples;
- to provide easy-to-follow information and guidance on policy developments and legislation.



Bert Van Caelenberg attended the EU partnership meeting of 20.03.2018 on behalf of Eurofedop.

He learned that a special 'Europe Day' would be organised on 9 May 2018 and a European Week for Safety and Health at Work from 21 to 25 October 2019.

A wide range of campaign materials, tools and publications can be downloaded in 25 languages from the campaign website www.healthy-workplaces.eu.

Why is managing dangerous substances so important?



Enterprises still encounter serious difficulties in tackling the risks posed by dangerous substances. There is for example the problem of asbestos which is still present in large quantities in buildings in the EU.

Furthermore, new challenges are emerging through the use of innovative materials such as nanomaterials, 3D-printing, substances which disrupt the endocrine system, ...

Eurofedop is aware of the special risks run by certain groups of employees of public services. In the execution of their duties, the staff of fire brigades, police officers, emergency services, health care professionals, can be confronted with unpredictable, life-threatening situations. It is crucial that the risks to which these workers are exposed are not underestimated and that special policies are worked out for the protection of these workers in public services.

*Appropriate measures must be taken
to prevent harm caused by exposure to
dangerous substances at work.*