

ILO World Day for Safety and Health at Work



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Safety and Health at Work 2007





What is World Day for Safety and Health at Work?

A day, the 28th of April, when governments, employers, workers and others raise awareness of the importance of safe, healthy and decent work



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Why is Safety and Health at Work Important for the ILO

- The International Labour Organization, a United Nations Specialized Agency, has created many international standards on safety and health at work since its inception in 1919
- Under the ILO's Decent Work Agenda, work can only be decent if it is safe and healthy
- Social dialogue, discussions between employers and workers, is a key tool in making work safe and healthy



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2005 Global Estimates

- About 2.2 million people die every year from occupational accidents and disease
- 270 million workers suffer non-fatal injuries
- 160 million workers suffer short or long-term illnesses from work-related causes
- Total cost = 4% of the world's gross domestic product
- Yet most accidents are preventable



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The International Labour Conference adopted, in June 2006, The Promotional Framework on Occupational Safety and Health Convention (C 187)

Promotes continuous improvement in occupational safety and health



- **Policy:** national policy promoting a safe and healthy working environment
- **System:** laws, regulations, information, advice, training and education, and the collection of data
- **A national programme:** timeframes, priorities and means of action



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Design Concepts Convention No.187



- Continually improving national occupational safety and health systems and performance through national programmes (Management Systems Approach)
- Placing occupational safety and health high on national agendas
- Promoting application of existing ILO occupational safety and health instruments
- Avoiding duplication with provisions in existing instruments
- Soonest ratification by most countries



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National Occupational Safety and Health Profile

The ILO Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Recommendation, 2006 (R: 197) suggests that member States prepare and regularly update a national profile which includes:

- A summary of the occupational safety and health situation (such as accident data)
- A summary of occupational safety and health system status

The profile can serve as:

- a tool for developing national occupational safety and health programmes
- benchmarking information for reviewing national occupational safety and health systems and performance



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The Business Case for Safety and Health at Work

Benefits which can be gained over one or more years

- Greatly reduced absenteeism
- Improved productivity
- Savings through better plant maintenance
- Reduced compensation claims and accident insurance
- Corporate image enhanced
- Improved client / supplier relationships
- Higher worker morale, motivation and concentration at work
- Improved worker retention



Source ILO GB Paper 295/ESP/3, March 2006



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ILO Guidelines on Occupational Safety and Health Management Systems (ILO-OSH 2001)



- Systematic tool to help protect workers from hazards
- Reduces work-related injuries, ill health, diseases, accidents and deaths
- Five key steps:
 1. Policy
 2. Organizing
 3. Planning and implementation
 4. Evaluation
 5. Action for improvement

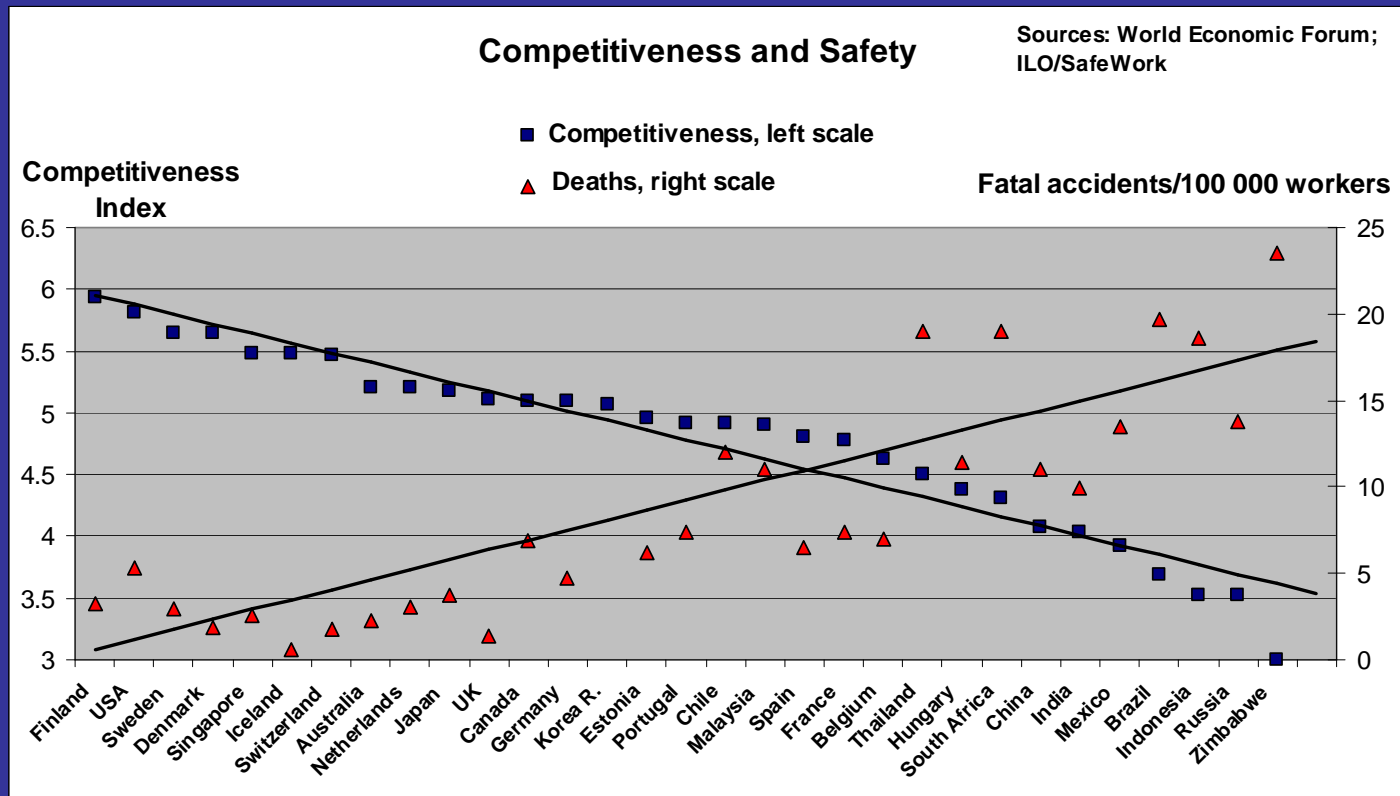


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Competitiveness and Safety

Comparisons between national competitiveness and levels of safety indicate that better safety and health equals better national productivity

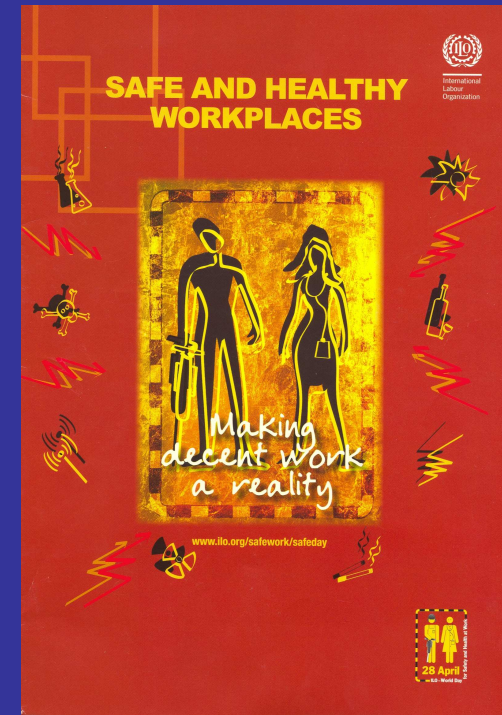


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National Preventative Safety and Health Culture

- Increasing general awareness, knowledge and understanding of hazards and risks, starting with basic education and continuing throughout working life
- Development of practices that contribute to prevention and the control of risks
- Should include the promotion of a general safety consciousness
- Recognizing this World Day for Safety and Health at Work is an integral element of establishing a preventative safety and health culture



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Education, Training and Information

- Fundamental in the promotion of safety and health at work
- Based on adequate and appropriate information, education and training needs to focus on total integration of safety and health into all activities
- Training and education must take into account cultural, social and economic factors in design, implementation and evaluation
- Adequate and timely information is a prerequisite for safe and healthy practices, measures and policy
- An international network of over 140 institutions make up the ILO's International Occupational Safety and Health information Network know as CIS



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Social Dialogue and Effective Management of Safety and Health

- Joint commitment between the competent authorities, employers and workers
- Employers' responsibility for a safe and healthy working environment
- Workers' duty to cooperate in the implementation of the occupational safety and health programme; and in respecting and applying procedures and protective measures
- Joint health and safety committees, an effective mechanism for worker participation in occupational safety and health management



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Corporate Social Responsibility

- Linkage between corporate image, corporate success and ...
 - good worker relations
 - good occupational safety and health practices
 - and with the integration of occupational safety and health and corporate policy



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KOSHA



XVIII World Congress on Safety and Health at Work

Safety and health at work : A societal responsibility

- Co-organized by the ILO and the ISSA and hosted by a national organizer
- The 2008 Congress will be in Seoul, South Korea
- Attracts several thousand people, every three years
- Provides an opportunity for participants to learn from each other and exchange information
- Provides an opportunity to reinforce and build networks and alliances
- A new event in the 2008 Congress is the addition of a high-level safety and health summit



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