



SAFETY NEWSLETTER EFNMS

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FACTS ABOUT CARCINOGENS

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FALL THROUGH A ROOF

OIRA TOOLS

EUROMAINTENANCE 2023



European Federation of
National Maintenance
Societies vzw

FACTS ABOUT CARCINOGENS; CONFINED SPACES AND EU STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

THE FACTS ABOUT CARCINOGENS

Carcinogens are substances that may cause cancer. There are several forms of carcinogens, for example chemical carcinogens, such as certain types of pesticides and industrial paint. These chemicals may cause cancer because of their intrinsic properties. In other cases, a particular process may generate exposures such as fine particles in the air from car exhaust or wood dust.

Some carcinogens can be inhaled and may enter, for instance, the bloodstream and the organs, including the brain. Others may enter through the skin.

Once carcinogens have entered in the body, they can damage the workers' DNA or change the ways in which the cells of the bodies work and replicate. This can lead to cancer and other health problems. Many workers, among which maintenance professionals, are being daily exposed to high levels of carcinogens, and this exposure continues through many years of employment. The direct costs of carcinogen exposure at work across Europe are estimated at 2.4 billion Euros per year. It is important to mention that carcinogen exposure alone is generally not the only factor that contributes to the development of cancer in a worker.

For most carcinogens, it matters how a worker is exposed to them, for example in what way, in which doses and for how long. Also, the worker's genetic makeup, biology or lifestyle may contribute to the development of cancer. Still, carcinogen exposure is a major risk factor for cancer, and therefore, smart solutions to reduce exposure to carcinogens at work are necessary. [Find out more!](#)



"Accidents hurt, safety doesn't"

CONFINED SPACES WITH GREECE, ITALY AND THE NETHERLANDS

Recently the NVDO together with EHSEC organised the Maintenance Webinar 'Confined Spaces'. There are generally two types of Confined Spaces; the ones that require a permit and the ones that do not. Spaces that require a permit could contain:

- A hazardous atmosphere
- Materials that could trap a worker
- Other hazards for employees

Examples for Confined Spaces that require a permit include tanks, manholes, pits and ditches (sometimes even open ditches). All of the above may present hazards like an asphyxiating, toxic or flammable atmosphere or mechanical, entrapment or other hazards.

Did you miss it? [VIDEO](#)

EU STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK ON HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK 2021-2027

The European Commission's Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2021-2027 defines the key priorities and actions for improving workers' health and safety, addressing rapid changes in the economy, demography and work patterns.

Strategic priorities

The Strategic Framework takes a tripartite approach – involving EU institutions, Member States, social partners and other stakeholders – and focuses on three key priorities:

1. Anticipating and managing change in the context of green, digital and demographic transitions
2. Improving the prevention of work-related accidents and diseases, and striving towards a Vision Zero approach to work-related deaths
3. Increasing preparedness to respond to current and future health crises

Discover the [EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2021-2027](#) in all languages and document forms!



FALL THROUGH A ROOF; OIRA TOOLS; VIDEO AND EUROMAINTENANCE 2023

FALL THROUGH A ROOF

Each and every year accidents happen during the maintenance of roofs*. Workers often times get (severely) injured during these activities. A practical example. Peter and Carl have to renovate a roof. They have applied protection on the edge of the roof. This way, they and their colleagues can go to work on the roof safely. Carl is working on a piece around the skylight.



He cannot reach easily and leans with his hand on the skylight. The skylight breaks and Carl falls down through the hole. Carl becomes unconscious and is rushed to the hospital.

[Check the facts and figures!](#)

SMALL BUSINESSES IN CROATIA EQUIPPED WITH RISK ASSESSMENT KNOWHOW

Small businesses in Croatia equipped with risk assessment knowhow
How can companies from across 30 activity sectors guarantee safe and healthy working conditions for their employees? Croatia has got the answer through the commitment of the national Online interactive Risk Assessment (OiRA). Divers professions have been recently provided with easy and free-to-use OiRA tools to help those businesses properly assess occupational safety and health risks in their sectors and comply with the related national legislation. And there is more to come! OiRA tools in Croatian for twenty more occupations are going to be released in the next months.

OiRA Tools

The OiRA sectoral tools provided are to enable micro and small enterprises to carry out risk assessments. The tools are free to download and can be easily accessed by clicking on the relevant link. Each link is accompanied by a short description of the tool and the name of the OiRA partner who developed it. Tools can be searched by country, language and sector. [TOOLS](#)

The OiRA Project



VIDEO

Accident, incident, near miss? What is it? Why we need to define them? The video shows some case of that!

Press the picture below!



LARGEST EUROPEAN MAINTENANCE CONFERENCE, EUROMAINTENANCE, COMES TO ROTTERDAM AHOY IN 2023

The largest European maintenance conference will eventually be held in Rotterdam from 17 to 19 April 2023. Covid-19 threw a spanner in the earlier plans, but the Dutch Maintenance Society (NVDO), the European Federation of National Maintenance Societies (EFNMS) and Rotterdam Ahoy will combine forces again. At the same time, Rotterdam Ahoy will be hosting the largest technology and maintenance exhibition in the Benelux from 18 to 20 April 2023: Maintenance NEXT. During this period, this powerful combination will make Rotterdam the European meeting place for maintenance professionals in the Asset Management industry.



*"Working safely
may get old, but so
do those who
practice it"*

