

Efnms strengthens its partnership with the eu agency of h&s at work (EU-OSHA)

As of 2010 EFNMS has been an active supporter of all EU-OSHA Campaigns that target specific contemporary H&S topics that pose a health threat to the workforce; the augmentation of EFNMS's involvement was sparked by the 2010-2011 Campaign topic on "SAFE MAINTENANCE". As of then, EFNMS has been an active Campaign Partner that brings all the interesting information published by EU-OSHA to the National Maintenance Society members. This EFNMS effort is mainly streamlined by the EFNMS's H&S Committee (EHSEC) work and efforts, in some cases in cooperation with the Focal Points of each country, the latter usually being the National Health Ministries. Being one of the most populated and widespread organizations among the Campaign Partners, EFNMS focused its efforts on ordering

and distributing the Campaign promotional material, participating and supporting the EU-OSHA Focal Points events, issuing and uploading publications on the Campaign subjects, posting on the Federation's social media etc.

As of 2021, EFNMS's EHSEC Chairman Dr George Scroubelos was selected to participate in the Steering Group Committee whose role is the exchange of good practices and amplify the promotional efforts; Dr Scroubelos has actively participated in two workgroups relating to (a) Industry 4.0/ Digitalization Risks as well as (b) Harmonization of OSH Education and presented a relevant work during the Steering Group's meeting in Brussels in May 2022.

The most recent Campaign was the 2020-2022 "LIGHTEN THE LOAD" one

which dealt with the ergonomic hazards, mainly related to manual handling i.e. loads, which result in musculoskeletal disorders (MSD's). MSD's is one of the primary hazards that maintenance personnel faces, mainly the technicians that usually not only carry a variety of loads as tools, spare parts, equipment and sometimes machinery but also work in awkward postures thus burdening their health. EFNMS, as an official EU-OSHA campaign partner, has participated at the Healthy Workplaces Campaign Summit that was held in Bilbao (Spain), on November 14th & 15th 2022. The main scope of the event was to discuss the results of the "LIGHTEN THE LOAD" Campaign, share knowledge and good practices but also explore future strategies for the effective prevention of MSDs at workplaces. It also served as an opportunity to present the forthcoming 2023-2025 Campaign. The new Campaign will start running in October 2023 under the slogan "SAFE AND HEALTHY WORK IN THE DIGITAL AGE" and will put the focus on effective prevention of occupational safety and health risk factors in the digital world of work.

EFNMS will keep on actively participating and supporting EU-OSHA's efforts by promoting the relevant focused issues in relation to the Maintenance Profession.



Bilbao EU-OSHA Summit, in November. From second left to right: Jan Teun Koningen (EFNMS - EHSE Committee member), William Cockburn (EU-OSHA Interim Executive Director), Michael Gillian (EU-OSHA Governing Board Chairperson), Mrs Brenda o'Brien (moderator), Dr. George Scroubelos (EFNMS - EHSE Committee Chairman), Giannis Skroumpelos (EFNMS - EHSE Committee member) and Georgios Skroumpelos (EFNMS - EHSE Committee member)

Dr George Scroubelos – Mechanical Engineer – Chairman of the EFNMS Health, Safety, Environmental Committee (EHSEC)