

# SAFETY JOURNAL

POWERED BY EHSEC

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HAPPY SAFE NEWYEAR

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EUROMAINTENANCE 2023



**efnms**  
European Federation of  
National Maintenance  
Societies vzw

# HAPPY SAFE NEWYEAR; ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE; CALENDAR; ENSHPO COOPERATION

## HAPPY SAFE NEWYEAR!

In the verge of the New Year, it seems that 2023 will bring even more challenges for the Health & Safety as well as the Maintenance Professionals. The 4.0 era is well under way, sustainability efforts have already become a corporate reality and the ESG Global Goals are setting new benchmarks. Within this ever-changing environment, we should all commit to make good use of the lessons learned during the pandemic crisis: even when the world was in distress, health, safety and maintenance professionals were among the ones that were tirelessly working to “keep the torch lit”. Hence, let us all join our thoughts in a common wish to be able to continue with the same stamina to highlight towards all directions the universal truth: Maintaining means Improving!

EHSEC is planning to be quite active in 2023 in a multi-fold way. New material is going to be developed for EFNMS members, its BoK contribution is going to continue with LOTO good practices, two workshops are going to be delivered during EuroMaintenance 2023, quarterly webinars are planned to be organized. The interim period (November 2022- October 2023) between the previous EU-OSHA Campaign ‘Lighten the Load’ and the upcoming campaign ‘Safe and Healthy work in the digital era’ are offering new fields of relating the role of safe and sustainable maintenance in a digital world by developing new material.

On behalf of the complete EHSEC-Team I wish you all the best in this new year!

George Scoubelos  
Chairman EHSEC

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

### Machinery Regulation

A tool contributing to ensure Artificial Intelligence (AI) safe machines Victoria Piedrafita, European Commission, means that next to the application in Exoskeletons and in preventing collision, AI can be applied in machinery built for the industry. “Challenge is then that these equipment’s need to comply with the EU Machine Directive. This presents several risk in the field of for example data, complexity of the systems, autonomy of the machine etc. A risk approach is suggested to assess the risk of the AI built into the machine. Based on this risk assessment an approach can be designed to make sure all risks can be mitigated. For example the amount of testing needed”.

### European standardization in support of the European AI regulations

CEN takes over local standards or ISO standards according to Patrick Bezombes, French Standardization Association. About 35 ISO standards are developed already and more to come. Additions in certain sectors. Bezombes; “Standards are needed to support legislation. JTC 21 is considering about 15 standards for harmonization. A lot are still under development. Focus on horizontal standards first. This means standards that can be used across sectors and markets. It’s a general framework with standards about definitions, management systems etc. Just like we have seen in other areas. Another step is to appoint bodies for evaluation, verification, testing, audit and certification”.



## CALENDAR

### European Conference and Expo on Fire Safety Engineering

29-30 March, Berlin

This conference will be a significant benefit to all fire safety practitioners, such as engineers, designers, regulators, enforcers, insurers, developers and building owners and managers. Contributions and conference attendance on a global basis, and particularly from Europe are encouraged.

### SEMINARS

#### Explosion safety on the workforce

April 17, Ahoy Rotterdam. The Netherlands

To ensure the explosion safety on the workforce, you first have to know where the explosion risks are. In this very interesting and unique workshop we would like to immerse you in the different dangers, risks, cases and how you can translate these to awareness in the practical work field. And, we offer an insight into the influences that technological advances like hydrogen have on the policy with respect to explosion safety.

### REGISTER



### Ensure Health & Safety procedures during asset maintenance

April 19 at EuroMaintenance

Nowadays, ensuring health and safety in the workplace is even more important than before. High importance is placed on the safety of our employees and customers and are socially and legally obliged to do everything possible to ensure this. When organizations fail to ensure safety, the consequences are incalculable. Employees are put into potentially dangerous work situations with all the consequences. Product quality standards are not met, leaving customers facing potential recalls for which the supplier/ manufacturer is financially liable.

### REGISTER

### Electromagnetic Compatibility and Electrical Safety ICECES

May 11-12, 2023 in Berlin, Germany

Aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Electromagnetic Compatibility and Electrical Safety. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Electromagnetic Compatibility and Electrical Safety.

### PROGRAM

## ENSHPO COOPERATION

EHSEC's presence and vivid support of the EU-OSHA Campaign, as well as the participation of its Chairman in the Steering Group Committee resulted in interesting networking opportunities with other pan-European Organizations, the European Network of Safety and Health Professional Organizations (ENSHPO) being one of them. Its newly elected President Ms Mireya Rifá Fabregat participated in the last EHSEC meeting in Budapest where it was discussed how the two organizations can assist each other in promoting their actions by mutually participating in each other's events, contributing to developing specifications in various areas, delivering webinars and workshops, supporting the environmental pillar in EFNMS's Body of Knowledge and its affinity with the maintenance profession and possibly partnering in EU projects.

# NAPO; PSYCHOSOCIAL RISKS AND MSDS; RISKS OF ALGORITHMS AND AI; EUROMAINTENANCE 2023

## NAPO IN... THE HIDDEN KILLERS

Beating cancer is a priority within the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2021-2027. This Napo film is designed to raise awareness about work-related cancer and how to prevent it. The focus is on 'process-generated carcinogens' which occur as a by-product of a work process and need extra attention because they don't have labels and there may not be any references in Safety Data Sheets.

A high proportion of EU workers are potentially exposed to 'process-generated contaminants', in particular exhaust fumes such as diesel engine emissions, silica dust, hardwood dust, and welding fumes. Typical occupations where exposure to carcinogens is high include builders, drivers, mechanics, woodworkers, painters, and welders. Many workers are not aware that these substances can cause cancer.... [that needs to change!](#)



## PSYCHOSOCIAL RISKS AND MSDS

It is accepted that there are 6 broad demand factors of psychosocial risks in the workplace: Demands, Control, Lack of support, Pole conflict or obscurity, Job insecurity and Violence/ bullying/ harassment. Unfortunately, there is little or no research on any of them. One of the issues that is widely discussed in the EU is the "right-to-disconnect"; however, it seems that when this is implemented as a mandate, it creates more stress; so, the right-to-disconnect should be an option not affecting evaluation.

The return-to-work (rtw) after an occupational MSD-related absence is an issue that can be addressed successfully if the following exist:

- Health Policy, Healthy culture and good communication
- Incentives and Awareness
- Professional multidisciplinary and Social support
- Competence building
- Workplace adjustments
- Gradual rtw
- Right timing and Custom process
- Reviewing and performance tracking
- OHS standards
- Self-management, Trust and Will to talk
- Positive attitude for rtw and the changes involved
- Active participation
- Stay in touch with the company during the absence

*'Make it visuable: How can people who develop a MSD be helped'*

**INFOGRAPHIC**

## RISKS OF ALGORITHMS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

In his research, the professor of the Department of Labour Law and Social Security Adrián Todolí details that the personnel of a company is exposed to certain risks when the management of human resources and labour relations is automated. Thus, constant monitoring through technologies such as GPS or wearable devices; or also the intensification of effort as a result of a period marked by the algorithm, which can generate stress, anxiety, discouragement and even depression. Todolí was one of the Keynotes at the Bilbao EU-OSHA-conference last november.

The use of new technologies is constantly growing in the workplace and tends to introduce artificial intelligence algorithms or systems that are part of the work management in the company. To optimise productivity, these programs analyse data and routines that evaluate performance and effectiveness; establish shifts and production times; design and designate tasks; and even analyse the information of applicants for a position and select the options that best fit the company criteria.

Algorithms and artificial intelligence in work management can cause physical and mental health problems such as increased stress, anxiety and frustration; decreased self-esteem and depression in more extreme cases; the reduction of human contact and the worsening of the work environment. They can also cause personality changes related to the dehumanisation that the algorithm can exert.

### ABSTRACT



## 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.

