

# Healthy Workplaces

## MANAGE DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES



#EUhealthyworkplaces

[www.healthy-workplaces.eu](http://www.healthy-workplaces.eu)

## Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Awards

Call for nominations

# Managing dangerous substances at work

The consequences of exposure to dangerous substances can have a negative effect on quality of life or even be fatal. It is therefore crucial to prevent such risks in all workplaces — no sector is completely free from dangerous substances. Promoting a prevention culture in workplaces will benefit workers, management and even the environment.

This campaign raises awareness of dangerous substances in workplaces and provides information on how to prevent the risks associated with them. The campaign has a particular focus on workers with specific needs and targets groups that are particularly sensitive to the risks, such as migrant workers and young people.

The Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2018-19 has the following objectives:

- to raise awareness of the importance of managing dangerous substances;
- to promote risk assessment by providing information on practical tools and creating opportunities to share good practices;
- to increase awareness of risks linked to exposures to carcinogens at work;
- to target groups of workers with specific needs and at higher risk;
- to increase knowledge of the relevant EU legislation and highlight policy developments.

These objectives will be met by providing relevant facts and figures and sharing good practices.

More information about the campaign can be found at [www.healthy-workplaces.eu](http://www.healthy-workplaces.eu)



*In some sectors, workers can come into contact with hundreds of different chemical products.*



The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) invites entries to the **14th Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Awards in occupational safety and health**. As part of the 2018-19 Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances campaign, the competition aims to recognise organisations making outstanding and innovative contributions to safety and health at work by managing dangerous substances in the workplace.



# Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Awards

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), together with the Member States, organises the **Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Awards** alongside its Healthy Workplaces Campaigns. The awards help to demonstrate the benefits of good safety and health in the workplace, and serve as a **platform for sharing and promoting good practices across Europe**.

The specific aim of the Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Awards 2018-19 is to highlight leading examples of organisations that **actively manage the risks posed by dangerous substances in the workplace**. EU-OSHA is looking for examples that demonstrate a **holistic approach** to occupational safety and health (OSH) management and **real improvements in the use and handling of dangerous substances**

that ensure safe and healthy working conditions. The jury will also be looking for interventions that are both **sustainable and transferable**.

EU-OSHA welcomes entries from all interested organisations and individuals across Europe, and also from intermediaries such as social partners, safety and health practitioners and professionals, and advisers on OSH at the workplace level.

At a ceremony in November 2019, the winners will receive their awards. The achievements of all the organisations that took part will also be celebrated. Details of all awarded and commended examples will appear in a publication that will be widely distributed across Europe and promoted on the EU-OSHA website.

*Raising awareness  
of the importance of  
preventing risks caused  
by dangerous substances  
helps to ensure that good  
solutions are put in place.*





## What types of good practice can be entered?

Any **real-life examples of innovative and effective OSH management in the handling and use of dangerous substances** can be entered. Entries should clearly **describe how good management practices have been implemented** in the workplace and what has been achieved, including aspects such as:

- how the risk assessment was organised in a comprehensive and effective way, covering all relevant risks for all groups of workers;
- the way in which the hierarchy of prevention was followed as a guiding principle (the STOP principle: **S**ubstitution, **T**echnological measures, **O**rganisational measures, **P**ersonal protection measures) and how the measures eliminated or significantly reduced the exposure of workers to dangerous substances, also including, if possible, the costs and benefits;
- the ways in which awareness was increased and a prevention culture encouraged.

*Effective management  
of safety and health risks  
benefits everyone involved.*

# What should an entry demonstrate?

The tripartite jury will be looking for evidence of:

- a holistic approach to safety and health at work;
- real and demonstrable improvements in safety and health in relation to dangerous substances;
- the prioritisation of collective measures over interventions focusing on the individual;
- effective participation and the involvement of workers and their representatives;
- the sustainability of the intervention over time;
- transferability to other workplaces (in other Member States, in different sectors and of different sizes);
- timeliness (the intervention should be either recent or not widely publicised).

In addition, the intervention should meet, and ideally exceed, the relevant current legislative requirements of the Member State in which it has been implemented. Products, tools and

services developed for commercial purposes will not be considered in the competition.

Visit EU-OSHA's website — <https://osha.europa.eu/en/healthy-workplaces-campaigns/awards/good-practice-awards> — for examples of good practices that have been awarded in previous years.

*We need to protect workers from accidents and illnesses caused by dangerous substances. Establishing a prevention culture can help to ensure that measures taken succeed.*







## Who can take part?

Good practice entries can be submitted to the competition by all organisations active in EU Member States, candidate countries and potential candidate countries, as well as members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), including:

- individual enterprises or organisations of all sizes;
- training providers and members of the education community;
- employers' organisations, trade associations, trade unions and non-governmental organisations;
- regional or local OSH prevention services, insurance services and other intermediary organisations;
- official campaign partners.

## How to participate

All entries are first judged at the national level by EU-OSHA's network of focal points. National winners then take part in the pan-European competition, after which the overall winners are selected.

The network partner in your country can provide you with details on how to enter the competition. Visit [www.healthy-workplaces.eu/en/national-focal-points](http://www.healthy-workplaces.eu/en/national-focal-points) to find out how to get in touch with your national focal point.

### **Deadline for United Kingdom entries:**

31 October 2018

### **Deadline for Ireland entries:**

26 September 2018

### **Deadline for Malta entries:**

28 September 2018

*Follow the campaign  
on Twitter:  
#EUhealthyworkplaces*

EU-OSHA also runs the 2-year-long **Healthy Workplaces Campaigns**, backed by the EU institutions and the European social partners, and coordinated at the national level by the Agency's network of focal points. The 2018-19 campaign, **Manage Dangerous Substances**, aims to raise awareness of the risks posed by dangerous substances in the workplace and to promote a culture of risk prevention.



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