Background

Workingonsafety.net is an international network of decision-makers, researchers and professionals responsible for the prevention of accidents at work. The network seeks to bring accident prevention experts together in order to facilitate the exchange of information and experience between different countries and sectors. The Working on Safety network attracts researchers, regulators, inspection bodies, safety professionals and other experts in this field of research and policy-making. It consists of an Internet platform (www.workingonsafety.net) and a biannual conference.

After the successful 1st Working on Safety Conference in Denmark (2002), the 2nd Conference in Germany (2004), the 3rd Conference in the Netherlands (2006), the 4th Conference in Greece (2008) and the 5th Conference in Norway (2010), the organizing committee of the 6th Conference invites you to Sopot, Poland. The organizing committee is based at the Central Institute for Labour Protection – National Research Institute (CIOP-PIB), which is also the hosting institution.

Programme

The programme will include plenary sessions and parallel technical sessions. The main conference programme will start in the morning of 12 September 2012 and finish at lunchtime on Friday 14 September 2012.

Main theme

“Towards safety through advanced solutions” is the main theme of the Conference.

The Conference will have a special focus on the prevention of accidents and trauma at work. Even though this subject area has been the topic for regulations, inspection authorities and enterprise initiatives for a long time, it still remains a major problem. The following branches will be of primary interest of the Conference: construction, transport, agriculture, manufacturing, mining and healthcare.
Topics of the Conference:

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES FOR IMPROVED SAFETY
• Advanced safety systems for machinery and robot workstations
• Safety systems adaptable to production and working conditions, including remote operation
• Use of communication and collaboration technology
• Forklift trucks - design and technical improvements
• New solutions to prevent falls and slips
• KISS (keep it simple stupid) or too advanced?
• Human factors and user-friendliness of advanced safety systems
• Foresight studies on new and emerging risks in new technologies and industries

ADVANCED SOLUTIONS RELATED TO PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
• New materials and embedded ICT systems for smart personal protective equipment
• Solutions assisting in selection and use of personal protective equipment
• Integration of personal protective equipment with other safety-related systems (e.g. property protection system, civil defence system, purchase system, etc)
• Behaviour-based systems for creating safety

MANAGEMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
• ICT tools supporting safety management (risk assessment, accident investigation, reporting; awareness campaigns etc.)
• Decision-support systems in the management of risks
• Effectiveness of ICT-based management elements in improving safety
• Advanced tools for crisis and emergency management in an enterprise
• Safety management in small and medium sized enterprises
• Safety management aspects of the Seveso III directive
• Organizational needs for orchestration the preventive program
• Integration of safety management with environmental and quality management systems
• A role of Corporate Social Responsibility in shaping and promoting safety management

SMART REGULATIONS AND INSPECTION
• New legal solutions on prevention of occupational accidents
• National systems for injury prevention
• Certification systems - success or failures in creating safety
• Accident investigation methods
• Occupational accidents: case studies and lessons learned
• Lessons learned from workplace inspections
HUMAN FACTORS IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF SAFETY AT WORK
- Participatory approach in the design of new machines, protective equipment, etc
- Safety culture and situation awareness
- Good practices for workers participation in safety management
- Success criteria for building competence of safety managers and workers by use of simulators and eLearning concepts

MYTHS ON SAFETY IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY – PROBLEMS SOLVED BY ICT?
- The ironies of automation – still valid?
- Distribution and visualization of information – does it improve safety-critical decisions?
- Human error – the main cause of most accidents
- Compliance to rules ensure safety

PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF SAFETY
- Occupational injury risks and the vulnerable workforce (ageing and young workers, immigrants)
- Violence in the workplace
- Psychosocial aspects of accidents at work (poor work organisation, poor communication, work-related stress etc.)
- Corporate Social Responsibility - does it include our workers in the developing countries?
Invited Keynote Lecturers

1. Managing safety critical organizations - lessons from the health care and nuclear domains, Teemu Reiman, VTT, Finland
2. Safety management and culture in health care*, Rhona Flin, University of Aberdeen, UK
3. The underlying causes of serious occupational accidents, Linda Bellamy, White Queen BV, The Netherlands
4. Accident investigation*, Chris Johnson, University of Glasgow, UK
5. Safe innovations for sustainable and competitive future - the ETPIS SafeFuture initiative*, Olivier Salvi, European Technology Platform on Industrial Safety (ETPIS)
6. Application of advanced PPE for accident prevention*, Katarzyna Majchrzycka, CIOP-PIB, Poland
7. Promoting safety by increasing uncertainty, Gudela Grote, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Switzerland
8. Modern human-systems integration for assuring safety of complex systems*, Waldemar Karwowski, University of Florida, USA

* titles to be confirmed

Framework Programme

**TUESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2012**

15:30-17:00 Registration  
19:00-21:00 Welcome reception

**WEDNESDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2012**

09:00-09:30 Opening addresses  
09:30-10:30 Keynote lectures  
10:30-11:00 Coffee break  
11:00-12:00 Keynote lectures  
12:00-13:30 Lunch  
13:30-15:00 Parallel sessions  
15:00-15:30 Coffee break  
15:30-17:00 Parallel sessions  
19:00-21:00 Get Together Event

**THURSDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2012**

09:30-10:30 Keynote lectures  
10:30-11:00 Coffee break  
11:00-12:00 Keynote lectures  
12:00-13:30 Lunch  
13:30-15:00 Parallel sessions  
15:00-15:30 Coffee break  
15:30-17:00 Parallel sessions  
19:00-21:00 Gala Dinner

**FRIDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2012**

09:00-10:30 Parallel sessions  
10:30-11:00 Coffee break  
11:00-12:00 Parallel sessions  
12:00-12:30 Summary and Closing  
12:30-13:30 Lunch

A full version of the programme will be available in spring 2012
Abstracts

Abstracts are required for all submissions for technical papers and thematic sessions. The abstracts should be written in English and must not exceed 300 words. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 15 February 2012. The abstract should be structured according to the following obligatory headings:

- Title
- Topic
- Author(s) and affiliations

The abstract submission form is available at: www.wos2012.pl

Receipt of all abstracts will be acknowledged and the authors of accepted papers will be notified by 15 March 2012. Accepted abstracts will be selected for oral presentations and printed in the Book of Abstracts.

The submission of a full paper is optional. Authors of accepted abstracts will be asked to write a full paper; however, it is also possible to make a presentation at the Conference without having written a full paper but in the form of PowerPoint (ppt) presentation.

Full papers and ppt presentations will be made available to the Conference participants. Submitted full papers will be assessed for publication in a special issue of Safety Science (scientific contributions), Safety Science Monitor (professional and policy contributions) or International Journal of Occupational Safety and Ergonomics (JOSE).

The deadline for submission of full papers is 1 June 2012.

The organizers consider acceptance of a presentation as a commitment by at least one of the authors to register for and attend the Conference to present the paper.

If unforeseen circumstances should prevent the author from making the presentation, it is the author’s obligation to find an alternative presenter and to notify the organizers.

Registration Fees

The registration fees are in PLN and include 23% VAT.

Early registration fee (until 1 June 2012)
- 2300 PLN (ca. 510 EUR)*.

Late registration fee (after 1 June 2012)
- 2640 PLN (ca. 585 EUR)*.

* calculated on the basis of the exchange rate applied by the National Bank of Poland of 10 December 2011, i.e. 1 EUR = 4.51 PLN.

Important deadlines

Deadline for the receipt of abstracts: 15 February 2012.
Notification of acceptance: 15 March 2012.
Deadline for the receipt of full papers and early registration: 1 June 2012.
Deadline for the receipt of ppt presentation: 15 August 2012.

Registration

Submitting your abstract does not mean that you are registered for the Conference. Registration will be made available through the website from January 2012.
Venue, accommodation and transportation

The Conference will be held at Sheraton Hotel, Sopot (address: Powstancow Warszawy Square 10, 81-718, Sopot, Poland).

A block reservation has been made at the Sheraton Hotel at the preferential rates. For detailed information please follow the link www.wos2012.pl/accommodation

Sopot is a seaside town of the Baltic Sea in northern Poland. It lies between the larger cities of Gdańsk (to the south-east) and Gdynia (to the north), the three towns together making up the metropolitan agglomeration called Trójmiasto (Tri-City). Sopot is a major health-spa and tourist resort destination. It has the longest wooden pier in Europe, at 515.5 meters, stretching out into the Bay of Gdańsk. Sheraton Sopot Hotel, Conference Center & Spa is a perfect place for meetings and Conferences situated in a great location by the beach. (www.sheraton.pl/sopot/en)

How to get there

- **AIRPORT**
The main airport in Tri-City is Lech Walesa Airport (Gdansk Airport) which is located on the border of Gdansk approximately 10 km from Sopot.

Gdańsk Lech Walesa Airport
www.airport.gdansk.pl

- **TRAIN**
The Intercity rail service stops at “Sopot” station. The connection to Tri-City is easily accessible by train from most European cities.
Train Information
www.pkp.pl

- **FERRY**
There are two main ferry companies operating on the Baltic Sea connecting the Tri-City with Scandinavia. The first is a Polferries route between Gdansk and Nynäshamn, which is 20 km from Stockholm. The second is a Stena Line connection between Gdynia and Karlskrona, a shipping port in southern Sweden.

Polferries Ferry Terminal
www.polferries.pl

Stena Line Ferry Terminal
www.stenaline.pl/en/ferries

- **BUS**
There are many coach and bus companies offering services to Gdansk, Sopot and Gdynia from other European countries. The most popular companies are:

INTER Bus
www.biletyautokarowe.pl

Eurolines
www.eurolines.pl/en/home-page

**SOPOT CITY WEBSITE:**
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
Kirsten Jørgensen, Technical University of Denmark
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