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Feasibility study of a standardization programme in the area of health and safety at the workplace

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CEN

REPORT
RAPPORT
BERICHT

CR 296

August 1989

Feasibility Study of a standardization programme in the Area of Health and Safety at the Workplace

Etude de faisabilité d'un programme de normalisation dans le domaine de la Sécurité et de la Santé sur les Lieux de Travail

Machbarkeits-Studie über ein Normungsprogramm auf dem Gebiet des Gesundheitswesens und der Sicherheit am Arbeitsplatz.

This CEN Report was prepared by CEN/CS in collaboration with experts from the national standard institutes members of CEN in order to provide information to CEC/DG V concerning standardization activities in the field of Health and Safety at the Workplace.

The formal dispatch of this document to CEC/DG V has been authorized by the CEN Resolution BT 150/1989 of the Technical Board in accordance with CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations.

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CEN

European Committee for Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation
Europäisches Komitee für Normung
Central Secretariat : Rue Bréderode 2, B-1000 Brussels

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doc.NP Workplaces 78

Feasibility Study of a standardization programme in the Area of Health and Safety at the Workplace

BRIEF HISTORY

This CEN/Report was prepared by the CEN/CENTRAL SECRETARIAT in collaboration with the National Standards Institutes Members of CEN and with the participation of the following experts:

- Mr. A. de Saxcé , AFNOR , France.
- Mr. K.Wicks , HSE , United Kingdom.
- Mr. H.J. Sälzer , DIN , Germany.
- Mr. K.P. Scheuermann , DIN, Germany.
- Mr. Kühs , DIN , Germany.

This document, issued under decision of CEN/Technical Board (BT Resolution 150/1989) with the aim of providing information to the Commission of the European Communities and to the CEN/CENELEC members, outlines the current and forthcoming Standardization Activities in the Area of Health and Safety at the Workplace.

August 1989

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Chapter 1 : The involvement of the National Standardization Institutes Members of CEN in the Field of Health and Safety at Workplace

Chapter 2 : Programme of Work related to the "Minimum Requirements" for a Workplace

Chapter 3 : How to adapt the CEN structure to the part in Health and Safety

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Chapter 1 : THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTES MEMBERS OF CEN IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORKPLACE

In the framework of the programme of EEC Commission concerning "Safety, hygiene and health at work" and, in particular, referring to the Proposal for a Council Directive concerning minimum safety and health requirements for the workplace[doc.COM (88) 74 final], and to its proposed amendment[doc.COM (89) 86 final], CEN has been requested by EEC to draft this Report on the "Feasibility of a standardization programme in the area of health and safety at the workplace".

Article 118A of EEC Treaty provides that the Council shall issue Directives containing MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS designed to encourage improvements especially in working environment, as regards health and safety of workers.

Furthermore, the completion of Internal Market entails the drawing up of Directives based on Article 100A, in accordance with the NEW APPROACH TO HARMONIZATION AND STANDARDIZATION.

Complying with essential safety requirements for design, manufacture or construction is a condition for sale and free movement of products throughout the Community: in view of this fact, safety requirements on these products will also imply a direct effect on safety conditions of workplaces.

The improvement of safety and health conditions at work will constitute an essential feature of the social dimension of Internal Market and, therefore, provisions relating to social policy and those relating to policy for gradual establishment of Internal Market should be considered closely tied.

As reported in this chapter Member States have very different systems of legislation on safety and health at work: almost all countries refer to REGULATIONS which still remain the main reason for the existence of different levels of safety and health protection in Europe.

However in several countries NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION BODIES are involved in active collaboration with national authorities for the development and issue of standards which should supply technical details to the regulations in this field:

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