The STOP principle
a hierarchy of prevention measures:

Appropriate measures must be taken to prevent harm caused by exposure to dangerous substances at work.

The **European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA)** contributes to making Europe a safer, healthier and more productive place to work. Set up by the European Union in 1994 and based in Bilbao, Spain, the Agency researches, develops and distributes reliable, balanced and impartial safety and health information, networking with organisations across Europe to improve working conditions.

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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Safety and health at work is everyone's concern.
It's good for you. It's good for business.

Healthy Workplaces
MANAGE DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES

www.healthy-workplaces.eu

European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

Healthy Workplaces

The campaign - manage dangerous substances at work

In many workplaces throughout Europe, workers are exposed to dangerous substances, which are a major occupational safety and health (OSH) issue. There is a great deal of legislation on this issue as well as numerous guidance and support documents and tools; nevertheless, awareness and knowledge are often insufficient, and easily applicable preventive measures could be taken in many more cases.

Taking action to eliminate or reduce exposures to dangerous substances helps to protect workers from a range of accidents (such as fire, explosion and suffocation) and health problems (including skin diseases, allergies, respiratory illnesses, birth defects and cancers). Furthermore, it makes good business sense to address the risks: organisations will reap the benefits in terms of, for example, increased productivity and reduced sickness leave.

The campaign has the following objectives:

- to raise awareness of the importance and relevance of managing dangerous substances in European workplaces;
- to promote risk assessment, elimination and substitution, as well as the hierarchy of prevention measures;
- to raise awareness of the risks linked to exposure to carcinogens at work;
- to target groups of workers with specific needs and increased levels of risk (for example, women, migrants and young people);
- to increase awareness of policy developments and the current legislative framework.

Dangerous substances continue to be a major safety and health issue in the workplace.

Who can take part?

All interested individuals or organisations — at both European and national levels, of any size and from any sector — are encouraged to take part in the **Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances** campaign. The campaign may be of particular interest to:

- all employers in the public and private sectors;
- managers, supervisors and workers, and OSH representatives;
- EU-OSHA's focal points and their networks;
- social partners;
- sectoral social dialogue committees;
- policy-makers;
- European institutions and their networks;
- European non-governmental organisations;
- OSH and human resources professionals and their associations;
- the OSH research community;
- labour inspectorates and their associations;
- the media.

How can you get involved?

There are many ways to get involved in this campaign. For example, you could:

- disseminate and publicise campaign materials to help raise awareness;
- organise training courses, workshops, competitions, events or other activities;
- promote the substitution principle and the hierarchy of prevention measures;
- make use of and promote the useful tools and resources available for managing dangerous substances in the workplace;
- share good practices for the prevention of risks posed by dangerous substances in the workplace;
- participate in the Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Awards;
- take part in the European Weeks for Safety and Health at Work in October 2018 and 2019;
- become an official or national campaign partner or a campaign media partner.

Further information and resources

Visit ***www.healthy-workplaces.eu*** for more information on the campaign. On this website you will also find various resources to help you promote and support the campaign, for example:

- the Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances campaign guide;
- PowerPoint presentations, posters, infographics and info sheets;
- the campaign toolkit and other related material;
- the latest Napo videos.

Follow us on social media (Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn) and share our posts.

Keep up to date with the latest campaign news through our campaign website ***(https://healthy-workplaces.eu).***

Becoming a campaign partner offers a range of benefits, including taking part in good practice exchange events and other networking opportunities.

Key dates

Campaign launch: April 2018

European Weeks for Safety and Health at Work: October 2018 and 2019

Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Exchange event: 1st quarter of 2019

Healthy Workplaces Summit: November 2019