

NVvA and OH in the Netherlands

IOHA board presentation
June 17th 2016

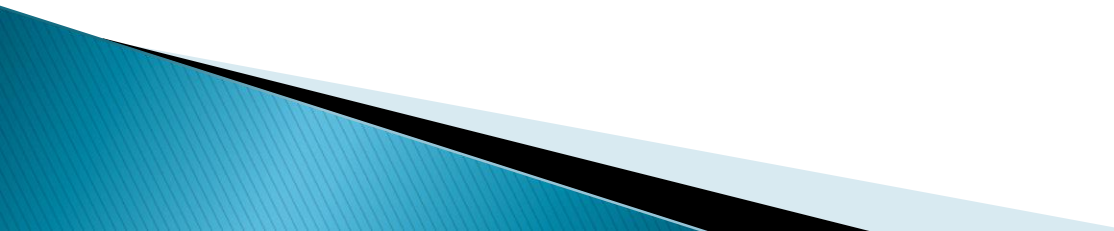
NVvA in Key Facts

- Founded in 1983 (30 members)
- Member of IOHA since: 1987
- Nr. of members: 498
- Female/male members: 177/321
- Certified/non-certified 149/349
- Age range from 25 to 76
- Knowledge society
- Financially healthy

Activities

- Country wide meetings (2/year)
- Regional member meetings (per region 1 or 2 per year)
- Branche/business focus groups (construction, health care, chemical industry etc., 1 or 2 meetings per year)
- Yearly 2-day conference
- State-of-the-art knowledge dossiers (Kennis dossiers)
- Society newsletter (on paper), website (incl. archived newsletters)
- Scientific Journal (Journal of Applied Occupational Sciences) issued in collaboration with with safety professionals

Activities

- Representation in national working groups (like asbestos, infection prevention)
 - Influencing Dutch HSE regulations
 - ▶ Cooperation with related societies
 - ▶ Network with governmental bodies, employer associations and trade unions
 - ▶ Yearly funding of international project (through a competition of proposals submitted)
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International projects

- ▶ 2016 Development and capacity building in Occupational hygiene in **Turkey** and Balkan countries
- ▶ 2015 In collaboration with Fair Wear Foundation: Improvement of worker conditions in shoes and outdoor fabrication locations in **Vietnam**
- ▶ 2014 Chemical Risks and Strengthening Occupational Hygiene in **Bahamas**
- ▶ 2013 Health and Safety improvements through awareness during training of **Zambian** metal and woodworkers
- ▶ 2012 Strengthening development of Occupational Health Societies in **Latin America**
- ▶ 2011 Translation of 10 PIMEX instruction videos in 3 languages.
- ▶ 2010 Support the work of an occupational hygienist in **Paramaribo**, a golden opportunity
- ▶ 2009 Improvement of work environment of children in the leather industry in **Bangladesh**
- ▶ 2009 Instruction training on assessing and managing chemical exposures in **Tanzania and India**



PIMEX

Stoffenmanager 5.1 ®

LASROOK ASSISTENT



BIONORMTOX-model



Challenges

- Students/Graduates:
 - No specific occupational hygiene scientific education in NL
 - Scientific research is reducing
- Retaining IHs throughout career & New joiners in the society because of 'career moves' (age...)
- Dutch legislative environment – goal driven, lacks detailed requirements (example: lack of legal OEL's, company to derive health based limits)
- Small society compared to safety
- Occ. hygiene relatively unknown discipline

International challenges

- EU legislation driving country legislation – no structured EU collaboration (although informal connections are in place)
- EN/CEN etc. lack of collaboration between OH societies (recent example of EN 689 where it was shown that it can work)
- Language
- EU vs global legislation (example Reach, CE-standards for PPE)
- Lack of global harmonisation of control banding tools, OEL's (hierarchy of OEL's), modelling tools, etc .

NVVA Suggestion

- ▶ European Occupational Hygiene platform may be of additional value as IOHA or individual national associations seems to be directly involved in important EU working conditions developments:
 - ▶ • national control banding tools and their international alignment
 - ▶ • health based OELVs (SCOEL, DGV, DECOS, DFG, AGS, INRS, ECHA DN/MEL,) and their alignment
 - ▶ • exposure assessment and control within REACH
 - ▶ • CEN 689
 - ▶ • “coordinate” input for relevant conferences
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