The national occupational safety and health programme for Switzerland

M. Graf
Division of Working Conditions
• ....

• Working conditions
  – Industrial relations
  – Health protection
    • Working hours
    • Protection of women and children
      • Prevention of work-related illnesses
  – Industrial building safety

• Employment policy and unemployment benefits

• ....
The role of the Insurance Industry

All

• Provide compensation for occupational injuries and industrial diseases

Suva – Swiss accident insurance agency

• Enforcement of laws relating to safety (in some branches) and prevention of occupational diseases

• Advising companies in occupational safety matters and disease prevention

• Rehabilitation and monitoring
"Occupational health and safety makes good business sense"
Workplace health promotion

- Encouraging commitment of the workers (empowerment)
  - Education
  - Participation
- Inspection and enforcement
- Information and encouragement

EVD / DFE
The role of the Cantonal Inspectorates

- Enforcement of laws relating to health and safety (some branches excluded)
- Limited advising in occupational health matters
- .....
The role of occupational health and safety professionals

Occupational physicians

• Advising companies in occupational safety matters and disease prevention
  – Risk assessment in some branches

• Assisting with rehabilitation

• Monitoring health of endangered workers

• .......

Occupational hygienists

Safety officers and engineers

Ergonomists

Organisational psychologists
The role of the education system

- Training in OHS for everyone
- Training of specialists
- Research
  - Identification of new risks
  - Development and testing of intervention strategies
- .......

EVD / DFE
What we would like to see

- More women in labour inspectorates
- Better monitoring
- Better enforcement of the law – esp. sector coverage and health risks
- More worker participation (eg workplace health promotion)
- Better understanding by companies of health risks, particularly psychological risks
- Training in OHS during all levels of education
- .......

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