

eurogip



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Activity report

2010

glossary

- CARSAT:** Caisse d'assurance retraite et de la santé au travail / Retirement and Occupational Health Insurance Fund
- CGSS:** Caisse générale de Sécurité sociale / Overseas Health Insurance Funds
- CNAMTS:** Caisse nationale de l'assurance-maladie des travailleurs salariés / National Health Insurance Fund for Employees
- CRAM:** Caisse régionale d'assurance-maladie / Regional Health Insurance Fund
- DRP:** Direction des risques professionnels de la CNAMTS / the Occupational Risks Department of the CNAMTS
- INRS:** Institut national de recherche et de sécurité / National Research and Safety Institute

The Health insurance - Occupational risks, also called the **Occupational injuries Branch**, manages legal insurance against accidents at work, commuting accidents and occupational diseases for employees under the general Social Security system (industry, trade and services). It implements occupational risk prevention policy. The Branch comprises: the DRP of the CNAMTS, the Prevention and Risk-rating Departments of the CRAM/CARSAT and the CGSS, the INRS, the Occupational Injuries Benefits Departments of the Local Health Insurance Funds (CPAM) and the CGSS, the Medical Department at the national, regional and local level, and EUROGIP.

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EUROGIP in short

- ▶ **Mission:** To organize, coordinate and develop at the European level the actions of the Occupational Injuries Branch* of the French Social Security system
- ▶ **Status:** Public interest grouping (*Groupement d'intérêt public, GIP*) between CNAMTS* and INRS*
- ▶ **Creation:** 1991
- ▶ **Administration:** Equi-representational board consisting of 10 incumbent members representing the employers and employees
- ▶ **Resources:** About 70% come from the National Fund for prevention of accidents at work and occupational diseases, and 30% from contracts signed with the French government and the Community authorities.

Activities

EUROGIP

- performs comparative surveys on occupational risks in Europe
- publishes three electronic newsletters - EUROGIP Infos and EUROGIP les Echos (quarterly), EUROGIP InfoMail (twice monthly) - and survey reports, thematic memos, etc.
- organises conferences, the “Débats d'EUROGIP”, on European occupational health and safety issues
- takes part in projects of Community interest
- coordinates a network of experts (CNAMTS, CRAM/CARSAT, INRS*) who take part in the production of European and international standards
- acts as secretariat for the French Coordinations of Notified Bodies for the regulatory certification of personal protective equipment and machinery (under the authority of the Ministries of Labour and Agriculture) and acts as technical secretariat for the European “Machinery” Coordination.

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The team



From left to right: Gilbert Bienvegnant, Marie-Amélie Buffet, Nassira Definel, Delphine Delamare, Christèle Hubert, Christine Kieffer, Catherine Lecoanet, Isabelle Leleu, Virginie Pluot, Marja-Leena Porsanger, Isaure Poussielgue, Jean-Loup Wannepain



Editorial



Ronald Schouller
President of the Board



Raphaël Haeflinger
Director

“ This year again, the team - although it consists of only twelve employees - performed numerous activities. This annual report merely outlines the significant events. Each of these activities helps to constantly boost recognition of EUROGIP.

Along these lines, a feature of 2010 was the significant press repercussions of the publication of two surveys, one concerning recognition of the work-related nature of cancers, and the other on psychosocial risks, two major topical subjects.

In another register, we are of course very pleased by EUROGIP's deeper involvement in 2010 in contributing a European viewpoint on topical issues in the Occupational Injuries Branch*, whether by writing technical memos or by organizing discussion meetings with European counterparts.

Lastly, we are pleased to report that EUROGIP won a new European Commission invitation to tender relating to occupational disease systems in Europe. Regarding this topical issue, EUROGIP is recognized for its expertise, and was accordingly called on to take part in the consortium set up.

Its comprehensive expertise makes EUROGIP a major player in the field of occupational risk prevention and insurance in Europe. ”

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Participation in projects of Community interest

EUROGIP takes part in projects of Community interest that match with the scope of its activities: the insurance or prevention of occupational risks in Europe

▶ Producing a report on occupational disease systems in Europe

Requested to tender by the German organization *Gesellschaft für Versicherungswissenschaft und-gestaltung e.V. (GVG)* in May 2010, EUROGIP replied and, as part of a consortium, won a European Commission invitation to tender. The work involved producing “a report on the current situation of occupational disease systems in the EU Member States and the EFTA/EEA countries, in particular in light of the Commission's Recommendation 2003/670/EC concerning the European List of Occupational Diseases, and collection of data on relevant associated aspects”.

This project, which was launched in January 2011, is to last 15 months. It involves GVG as coordinator and three partners: the Dutch Centre for Occupational Diseases (NCvB), the Institute of Occupational Medicine (NIOM) in Poland, and EUROGIP.

▶ Technical Secretariat of the European Coordination of Notified Bodies for Machinery

Following the tender that was awarded in late 2009, EUROGIP assume, for the next four years, the Technical Secretariat of the European Coordination of Notified Bodies for regulatory certification of Machinery. In 2010, it has:

- prepared and facilitated two meetings of the Horizontal Committee,
- prepared a fact sheet dealing with the assessment of conformity of a machinery which changed the basic one which has been the subject of a certificate (EC-AET) by another notified body,
- formatted documents developed during these meetings on fasteners and captive screws, quasi-machines.

EUROGIP also approximated the databases CIRCA and NANDO so that all agencies have reported at least one representative recipient of the documents produced by the Coordination.

▶ EU-OSHA “Occupational Safety and Health” Topic Centre

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA, located in Bilbao) is supported in particular by the work of the “Occupational Safety and Health” Topic Centre. This consortium of European organizations, of which EUROGIP has been a member since 2001, is responsible for collecting, assessing and disseminating information on good health and safety practices existing in EU countries. In 2010, the following work was entrusted to EUROGIP:

- Production of case studies on the role of management involvement in the success of occupational health and safety policies in enterprises and on risk prevention in the agricultural sector
- Collection of Web links to enrich the European Agency's website and add case studies to the database on the this website (<http://osha.europa.eu>).

Enrichment by the experience of our European neighbours

EUROGIP

performs comparative surveys on occupational risks in Europe at the request of its founding members - the CNAMTS and INRS* - and within the framework of the European Forum of Insurance against accidents at work and occupational diseases



Occupational health and safety statistics in Europe

The provision of statistics relating to accidents at work, commuting accidents and occupational diseases in the EU Member States continued in 2010.

Four new "Statistical Reviews of Occupational Injuries" were launched regarding Denmark, the United Kingdom, Finland and Sweden. At the same time, the information concerning Germany, Belgium, Spain and France was updated.

At the end of 2010, the collection launched in 2008 comprised the following publications:

| Countries | Published data reference years |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Germany | 2006-2007-2008 |
| Great-Britain | 2008/2009 |
| Spain | 2007-2008-2009 |
| Italy | 2006-2008 |
| Austria | 2008 |
| Belgium | 2007-2008 |
| France | 2008 |
| Czech Republic | 2008 |

Documents to be downloaded for each country at <http://www.eurogip.fr/fr/rechercher-par-pays.php>



Compensation for permanent harm sustained by occupational injury and disease victims in Europe

The DRP*, which at that time chaired the European Forum of Insurances Against Accidents at Work and Occupational Diseases*, in June 2009 organized, with the support of EUROGIP, a conference on "Compensation for permanent harm sustained by occupational injury and disease victims". EUROGIP had undertaken to process and supplement the practical case studies presented by the representatives of the insurance organizations.

The benefits paid in Germany, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Sweden and Switzerland were examined based on two case studies. One case study concerned minor work disabilities without loss of income, and the other concerned work disabilities entailing a change of job with a loss of income.

EUROGIP's analysis was organized around three aspects: assessment of permanent disability, economic factors for the calculation of compensation, and changes in compensation over time.

Based on constants in the compensation factors for the countries studied, the countries were classified in two groups, depending on whether they pay compensation for permanent disability as a whole or separate compensation for various damages.

Common features and differences from one country to another, the advantages and disadvantages of each national system and their consistency were emphasized. This allows the reader to draw conclusions regarding their appeal for victims.

Report in French at http://www.eurogip.fr/fr/docs/Eurogip_NoteRPP_59F.pdf

The European Forum of Insurance against Accidents at Work and Occupational Diseases provides a venue for exchanging information and experiences between the national organisations, which are responsible for the statutory insurance against occupational accidents and occupational diseases. (www.europeanforum.org)

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Retirement benefits for workers exposed to asbestos: Italy's experience

In light of the French situation, it was decided to examine in greater detail the only early retirement system for workers exposed to asbestos existing in Europe, namely the Italian system.

Numerous legislative, regulatory and administrative documents, and practical information provided by the Italian occupational injury and disease insurance organization INAIL on management of the system, were studied in order to analyse:

- the origins (in 1992) and development of the system (amended or reformed several times)
- the procedures for opening the examination of applicants' dossiers
- the procedure applied by INAIL for verifying workers' exposure
- the main sectors and industries with recognized cases of exposure
- administrative management of the system
- quantitative data concerning the examination of dossiers
- the cost of the system.

This work led to the publication of a technical memo. This was first distributed to the DRP* and the General Inspectorate of Social Affairs (Inspection générale des affaires sociales, IGAS), then posted online on the EUROGIP website.

Note [in French] at http://www.eurogip.fr/fr/docs/Eurogip_NoteRetraiteAmiante_Italie_61F.pdf



Financial incentives for occupational risk prevention

EUROGIP investigated the financial incentive systems in force in six countries: Germany, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom. The main mechanisms identified are differentiation of the insurance premium (bonus/penalty system) based on an enterprise's accident rate. Some systems include additional rebates or subsidies to encourage, for example, the use of safe work equipment, worker training and the establishment of an occupational safety management system.



Social insurance abuse and fraud

At the request of the DRP*, EUROGIP performed a survey on improper and fraudulent practices observed in other countries, and on ways of preventing and combating such practices. The situation was examined in Germany, Australia, Austria, Canada, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Sweden and Switzerland.

In these countries there is a keen concern for combating social security fraud in every form. The basic methods of combat are personnel training and the intensive use of electronic databases, facilitated by the development of online administration. A distinguishing feature of Anglo-Saxon countries is the widespread practice of denunciation. Special emphasis is placed on combating illegal work.

These two surveys led to the publication of a technical memo that was circulated to the DRP*.

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Knowing about and sharing knowledge of developments

Website, publications, conferences, etc. Via various media, EUROGIP helps to improve understanding of the various programmes carried out at the Community level and in EU countries in the area of occupational injury prevention and insurance*.

▶ Specific research projects

EUROGIP was called on, by the DRP and the INRS* in particular, to perform specific research on topical issues:

- Recognition of cancers caused by bitumen in several European countries following the publication of the report on work-related cancers
- Allowance for and prevention of painful working conditions in Germany through the example of measures taken by BMW in this area.

The General Directorate of Labour (DGT) of the French Labour Ministry called on EUROGIP for information on the possibilities in Europe for recognition of the work-related nature of mental illnesses and of cancer of the larynx caused by asbestos.

In 2010, EUROGIP also continued to be involved in the “coordinated fields” of OH&S of the Occupational Injuries Branch* to provide a European viewpoint on the following issues:

- Induction of new recruits
- Domestic help
- Migrant workers.

▶ Occupational risk monitoring in Europe

An essential part of all EUROGIP's activities, monitoring involves keeping a watch on news in the following areas:

- Legislation and Community authorities
- Occupational risk prevention and insurance in the EU Member States, including any structural changes in the competent organizations
- Publications, survey results, events, etc. relating to occupational risk.

The documentation centre also handles the questions submitted to it. In 2010, these questions covered subjects such as the new Machinery Directive, the recognition of occupational qualifications from one EU-27 country to another, OH&S statistics, MSD, the regulations in force in EU Member States, etc. The questions come mainly from the personnel of the Occupational Injuries Branch*, but also from outside persons.

▶ Study meetings

As part of its mission of improving knowledge of the work of the Occupational Injuries Branch* and promoting exchanges with its European counterparts, EUROGIP organized a meeting between the French national health insurance fund for employees (CNAMTS) and the Italian occupational health and safety insurance organization INAIL.

The discussions covered:

- OH&S trends: statistics, underreporting of occupational diseases, changes in the lists of occupational diseases and establishment of a national register of work-related diseases
- Economic incentives for risk prevention
- Painful work
- Asbestos-related benefit payments.

In 2010, EUROGIP also organized a meeting between the DRP* and the German accident insurance organization DGUV on financial incentives for risk prevention, since the system established in Germany is very different from those in other European countries.

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New publications in 2010

Enquiries reports

- “Work-related cancers: What recognition in Europe?”
- “Occupational health and safety in the domestic services sector in Europe”
- “Prevention of occupational desintegration: The experience of six countries”
- “Psychosocial risks at work: A European issue”
- “Compensation for permanent harm sustained by occupational injury and disease victims in Europe - Comparative analysis in ten European countries of the case studies presented at the Conference of the European Forum of Insurances Against Accidents at Work and Occupational Diseases on 23 June 2009”
- “Retirement benefits for workers exposed to asbestos - Italy's experience”.

“**Statistical Review of Occupational Injuries**” (cf. studies) concerning Spain (2009 statistics), Germany (2008), Belgium (2008), the Czech Republic (2008), Italy (2008) and France (2008).

Institutional documents: EUROGIP presentation brochure, EUROGIP 2009 annual report, report on the 2009 standardization activity of the Occupational Injuries Branch*.

Three electronic letters

EUROGIP Infos

2010 was the first full year during which the quarterly on occupational risks in Europe was available exclusively in an electronic version, through online registration on the EUROGIP website.

L'InfoMail d'EUROGIP

This twice-monthly newsletter, available in French and English, presents summary articles on occupational risk news at the Community level and in the EU Member States, with links to resources to find out more.

EUROGIP Les Echos

This quarterly institutional newsletter reviews the activities of EUROGIP (assignments, publications, current survey, etc.), focusing on one of them via an interview of the style “3 questions to” a EUROGIP staff member.

Subscription and archives at www.eurogip.fr/en (homepage)

Publicizing EUROGIP and its work

At the request of various correspondents, EUROGIP regularly has the opportunity to speak about its activities and its work. Like each year, it did so during the training sessions for future safety inspectors and engineers of CRAM/CARSAT/CGSS*.

In 2010, the Group spoke in particular during:

- a congress of industrial doctors organized by INCA (a technical organization attached to the Italian trade union confederation CGIL)
- an inter-union consultation day, at the request of the French trade union organizations, in order to step up trade unions' participation in standardization, as an occupational health and safety tool.

Moreover, the publication of survey results and the organization of the Discussions are all occasions for EUROGIP to publish a press release.

For example, in 2010, the studies on recognition of the work-related nature of cancers and on psychosocial risks gave rise to a large number of articles in the written press and on Internet. The publication of AFP (Agence France Presse) agency dispatches led to the appearance of 74 articles on the first subject and 36 on the second. In addition, several media regularly replicated information published by EUROGIP (in EUROGIP Infos and the EUROGIP InfoMail).

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Putting forward a joint position on the European level

EUROGIP

coordinates the work,
in which the Occupational
Injuries Branch* takes part, to
prepare European and
international standards relating to
occupational health and safety.
The goal for the Branch is to
highlight its position as an
OH&S institution in the
normative consensus.

▶ Financing of certain work

To optimize the contribution of the standardization experts, EUROGIP has, since 1992, financed in a few precisely defined areas the work of the French commissions in which the position to be put forward at the European or international level is worked out.

In 2010, the agreement with the UTE (Union technique de l'électricité) was renewed in order to support work in the area of electrical equipment for machinery.

EUROGIP also funded the annual registration fees of:

- 32 experts in 22 standardization commissions managed by the French mechanical engineering standardization association UNM, in order to maintain an OH&S presence in standardization work on the safety of machinery
- 42 experts in 25 standardization commissions managed by Afnor.

▶ Coordination of experts involved in standardization work

In 2010, EUROGIP coordinated the activity of 75 experts of the Occupational Injuries Branch (CNAMTS*: 3; CRAM/CARSAT*: 19; INRS*: 51 and EUROGIP: 2) called on, depending on the required competencies, to take part in work for the preparation of European or international standards concerning occupational health and safety.

These experts took part in the work of:

- 42 Technical Committees (TCs) of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN)
 - 2 TCs of the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC)
 - 10 TCs of ISO and 1 TC of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
 - more than 165 European and international working groups.
- They supervise the work of preparing standards in fields relating to the Occupational Injuries Branch:
- Safety of Machinery
 - Construction machinery, lifting and handling machinery
 - Physical environments
 - Biology, chemistry, ventilation
 - Personal and collective protection
 - Building products
 - Ergonomics.

One of EUROGIP's roles is to coordinate the internal consultation procedure in the Occupational Injuries Branch on draft standards submitted for enquiry. In 2010, such consultation involved 362 people and a collective opinion was expressed on 17 drafts, concerning: safety of machinery (6 drafts), building products (5), construction machinery, lifting and handling machinery (4) and biology, chemistry, ventilation (2).

* See page 2



Tools for the “standardization experts”

Normabase is a database of standards relating to occupational health and safety on the international, European and French levels. The public section allows access to the state of progress on draft standards and sheets (produced by EUROGIP) analysing the “machinery” standards from the OH&S viewpoint. A private section is reserved for the experts of the Occupational Injuries Branch*.

Data retrieved from this database enabled the annual updating of **Partenor** (European health and safety standardization work to which the experts contribute) and **Normavenir** (draft standards supervised by these experts), of which more than 220 copies were circulated within the Occupational Injuries Branch.

In partnership with the Ministries of Labour and Agriculture, EUROGIP took part in updating the “**StandardWebPort**” database.

The 17th version of this product contains 2,695 published standards relating to health, safety and working conditions, i.e. more than 1,936 new pages.

This database was made available to the documentation departments of the CRAM/CARSAT* and INRS* and to trade union and industry organizations in April 2010.

<http://www.eurogip.fr/fr/normabase.php>

Reporting OH&S prevention issues

The system for reporting OH&S issues allows information feedback from the field, from the activity of the CRAM/CARSAT* funds through to report processing by the Monitoring Office, a body placed under the aegis of the “Work Equipment” Expert Group since 2008.

EUROGIP is a member of this Office and took part in the quarterly meetings held in 2010.

About fifty sheets have been studied since 2008, of which 21 are closed and made available to the OH&S Network of the Occupational Injuries Branch.

These sheets helped to allow for experience feedback from the field on many standardization subjects, such as wood dust, goods lifts, personnel lifts, baling presses and industrial trucks.

Exchanges with European experts

EUROGIP is a member of the Steering Committee of Euroshnet, the European network of OH&S experts involved in standardization, testing and certification. The aim of this network is to facilitate exchanges between experts working in OH&S organizations in order to define joint positions on the issues dealt with. EUROGIP also coordinates one of the discussion forums on the Euroshnet website (General Questions) and contributes financially to the improvement of the site.

Moreover, EUROGIP contributed generously to the launch of a Franco-German seminar for OH&S personnel involved in standardization. This meeting is scheduled for 5 and 6 October 2011, in Brussels.

<http://www.euroshnet.org>

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Coordinating the work of the notified bodies on PPE and Machinery

Under the authority of the French Ministries of Labour and Agriculture, EUROGIP acts as secretariat for the French Coordinations of Notified Bodies for the regulatory certification of personal protective equipment (PPE) and machinery.

French Coordination of notified bodies

This activity is defined by agreements signed with the Ministries of Labour and Agriculture with a view to the production of conformity assessment procedures regarding PPE (Directive 89/686/EEC as amended) and machinery and safety components (Directive 98/37/EC as amended).

Regarding machinery, 2010 was marked by the coming into application of the new directive. All the work of the Coordination concerned support for the organizations in appropriating this text. The work also involved revising and updating the documents produced under the preceding directive, in particular the rule interpretation sheets and their updates, also taking into account the articles of the new labour code.

In the field of PPE

EUROGIP organized two meetings of the General Committee comprising 12 notified bodies (11 since the end of 2010) covering all the products and protective devices subject to the third party conformity assessment procedures of the PPE directive.

These meetings are an opportunity for exchange of information between the Ministry of Labour and the notified bodies concerning European meetings between Member States (Working group for follow-up of the PPE directive, Administrative Cooperation Group). The aim is also to determine joint positions applicable by the French organizations and to prepare the French positions to be put forward at the European level.

The main work concerned:

- the accreditation of notified bodies, following the publication of a decision specifying the reference framework for accreditation of the bodies for the various conformity assessment procedures
- limitation of the period of validity of EC type examination certificates (ETC-EC), the implementation of which requires a clear decision by the European Commission and the Member States and a validated procedure for the renewal of EC type examination certificates when their validity date has been reached. The French position is not to limit the period of validity and to wait until this obligation appears in the directive undergoing revision, which is due to come into effect in 2015

• the prohibition measures taken by the French authorities against sealed overalls for the spraying of chemical products.

With the notified bodies for PPE used in sports and leisure activities, EUROGIP worked out protocols for assessing, based on expert evaluation, the conformity with the directive of clothing and gloves used by non-professional motorcyclists. These documents were translated and sent to the European Coordination of the bodies concerned by these products.

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In the field of Machinery

EUROGIP organized eleven meetings, including two meetings of the General Committee (which brings together the 12 notified bodies) and nine meetings of the sector groups.

The purpose of these meetings is to solve the often complex technical problems still remaining, to integrate standardization work and to prepare the positions to be defended at meetings of the vertical groups and/or the Horizontal Committee of the European Coordination.

The Coordination devoted a large part of its work to the appropriation of the new directive, applicable since the end of 2009, but whose implementation took place throughout 2010. After identifying the new technical requirements

introduced in the 2006/42/EC Directive, the work concerned the consequences of these new requirements during performance of the EC type examination, for one of the two procedures for assessing conformity with the directive, by third party, kept in the new directive.

The new assessment procedure, "Full Quality Assurance", requires different competencies from those required for the EC type examination. The use of accreditation becomes indispensable to confirm expertise. This will also be valid for the two conformity assessment procedures for which the notified bodies will be applied to. To date, no manufacturer has opted for the "Full Quality Assurance" assessment and

there is not yet any French organization accredited for this procedure. The rule interpretation sheets have been updated based on the new regulatory references: articles, requirements and annexes of the new directive, articles of the new labour code; only those sheets contributing value added have been kept. Based on French and European news and regulatory publications, the EUROGIP website (see <http://www.eurogip.fr/informations-utiles.php>) has been supplemented with documents useful for the notified bodies and the various players involved in implementation of the PPE and Machinery directives.

European Coordination

In the field of PPE

EUROGIP took part in a meeting of the Steering Committee and a plenary meeting of the European Coordination of Notified Bodies for PPE, preceded by a meeting of the ad hoc group of notified bodies for Article 11. In the plenary meeting, the discussions concerned:

- notification and accreditation practices showing major differences between the accreditation organizations of the various Member States, which can result in severe distortions for the notified bodies
- the content of the EC type examination certificates, which led to the production of a European sheet largely based on the French model that had been proposed
- marking of the standard according to its national reference
- marking of the reference of a partially followed standard.

In the field of Machinery

EUROGIP provided the technical secretariat for the European Coordination, after winning the European Commission's invitation to tender (see page 5).

Certification by notified bodies

EUROGIP continued to collect the reports on EC type examination certificates issued by the notified bodies and the decisions taken under Article 11 of the PPE Directive.

The overall activity of notified bodies in the field of PPE is fairly constant from one year to the next.

In the field of machinery, the bodies had to renew the EC type examination certificates of machines certified under the preceding directive and for which the manufacturers have made the necessary changes to bring these machines into conformity with the new directive. These renewals represented 75% of the EC type examination certificates issued in 2010.

The database of EC type examination certificates for PPE and Machinery, unique in Europe, continued to be enriched and could also prove useful in the context of market surveillance campaigns.



www.eurogip.fr

55, rue de la Fédération - F-75015 Paris
Tel. +33 0 1 40 56 30 40
Fax +33 0 1 40 56 36 66



eurogip

comprendre les risques professionnels en Europe
understanding occupational risks in Europe