

## Annual Report 2013



## 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
- 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
- OH&S:** Occupational health and safety

**THE HEALTH INSURANCE - OCCUPATIONAL RISKS**, also called the **OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES BRANCH** of the French Social Security system, 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 CARSAT/CRAMIF 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.

## Contents

EUROGIP IN SHORT .....	4
FOCAL THEMES OF 2013: RETENTION IN EMPLOYMENT AND CASE MANAGEMENT .....	5
2013 BY ACTIVITY:	
— SURVEYS ON OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES IN EUROPE.....	6
— EU FUNDED PROJECTS .....	7
— MONITORING & INFORMATION ON OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES IN EUROPE .....	8
— PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATION .....	10
— STANDARDIZATION IN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY .....	12
— COORDINATION OF “MACHINERY” AND “PPE” NOTIFIED BODIES.....	14

# EUROGIP in short

— **Mission:** Analysing aspects of prevention and insurance against occupational injuries at the European and the international levels

— **Activities:**

- Collaborating on projects of Community interest in the fields of occupational injury and disease insurance and prevention;
- Performing comparative surveys on occupational risks in Europe;
- Collecting, analysing and disseminating information on accidents at work and occupational diseases in Europe;
- Networking by developing public relations and communication;
- Coordinating a network of experts taking part in the production of European and international occupational health and safety standards;
- Coordinating Notified Bodies for the regulatory certification of personal protective equipment and machinery on the French level, and machinery on the European level.

— **Creation:** 1991

— **Staff:**

- |                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| - Pierre BELINGARD              | - Catherine LECOANET     |
| - Gilbert BIENVEIGNANT          | - Isabelle LELEU         |
| - Marie-Amélie BUFFET           | - Virginie PLUOT         |
| - Delphine DELAMARE             | - Marja-Leena PORSANGER  |
| - Raphaël HAEFLINGER (Director) | - Isaure POUSSIELGUE     |
| - Christèle HUBERT              | - Mercedes SELLEM-DELMAR |
| - Christine KIEFFER             | - Jean-Loup WANNEPAIN    |

— **Status:** Public interest grouping (Groupement d'intérêt public, GIP) between CNAMTS\* and INRS\*

— **Administration:** Equi-representational board consisting of 10 incumbent members representing employers and employees  
President of the Board: Anne Héger (MEDEF, employers)

— **Resources:** National Fund for prevention of accidents at work and occupational diseases ( $\pm 70\%$ ), and contracts signed with the French government and the Community authorities ( $\pm 30\%$ )

\* See page 2

## Focal themes of 2013: retention in employment and case management

In several respects, 2013 was focused on the theme of retention in employment, which has become a national project, important for the coming years. At present, the French OSH insurance system compensates victims for the damage sustained, but provides them with relatively little support in managing their occupational rehabilitation and their retention in employment.

EUROGIP initiated the approach in 2010 by examining the experience of France's neighbours in the area of prevention of occupational deintegration. In 2013, it submitted a special report to the Occupational Risks Department (DRP) of the French national health insurance fund for employees (CNAMTS) to assist it in a pilot programme providing support for victims of serious or complex occupational injuries, and then organized meetings with experts from the national OSH insurance organizations of five countries: Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Spain and Switzerland. Note, too, that a meeting between the DRP and the DGUV (OSH insurer in Germany) was organized, within the framework of the French-German Friendship Year, during which the issue of disability management was discussed at length.

At the same time, the Group chose to hold its 2013 Discussions on the theme of retention in employment. Speakers from nine countries (Denmark, Switzerland, Germany, Sweden, Canada, Belgium, Finland, Iceland and the United Kingdom) described their experience regarding early detection of risks of occupational deintegration, the medical and social rehabilitation of victims, and organizing case management for the most serious cases.

Finally, in light of the interest aroused by its work on the European level, EUROGIP was invited to speak on several occasions, for example to the ESIP (the European Social Insurance Platform), of which the Représentation des Institutions françaises de sécurité sociale auprès de l'European Union (REIF: Representation of French Social Security Institutions in the European Union) is a member, and during a public day organized by CARSAT\* Languedoc-Roussillon, in partnership with DIRECCTE(1) and ARACT(2) and with the support of EU-OSHA.

EUROGIP will continue to assist the DRP on this subject of retention in employment, which has become one of the priorities for the action of the Occupational Injuries Branch within the framework of the objectives and management agreement ("Convention d'objectifs et de gestion 3 - COG) 2014-2017.

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(1) Direction régionale des entreprises, de la concurrence, de la consommation, du travail et de l'emploi (regional directorate for enterprises, competition, consumption, work and employment)

(2) Association Régionale de l'Amélioration des Conditions de Travail (regional association for the improvement of working conditions)

\* See page 2

# Studying the practices of our European neighbours

## — Incentives for occupational injury prevention



Enterprises must comply with occupational safety and health regulations. The question, though, is how to incentivize them to do so. For this reason, public authorities and OSH insurers have established various incentive schemes, in the form of benefits and penalties. To support the public policies of the DRP\* (“COG” OSH agreement 2014-2017), EUROGIP

presented a detailed overview of the techniques adopted in Germany, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Switzerland.

(1) Report in French only: “Incitations financières à la prévention des risques professionnels - une étude sur 7 pays européens”, sur [http://www.eurogip.fr/images/documents/3556/EUROGIP\\_89F\\_incitations\\_financieres.pdf](http://www.eurogip.fr/images/documents/3556/EUROGIP_89F_incitations_financieres.pdf)

## — OSH statistics in EU countries

As it has done for the past five years, EUROGIP updated its “Statistical Review of Occupational Injuries-France”. This covers the 2012 data relating to accidents at work, commuting accidents and occupational diseases. The English-language version disseminates the information outside French borders, which is a highly appreciated service.

[http://www.eurogip.fr/images/documents/3597/EUROGIP\\_90EN.pdf](http://www.eurogip.fr/images/documents/3597/EUROGIP_90EN.pdf)

\* See page 2

## — Under-reporting of occupational diseases in Europe

The various EUROGIP reports on occupational diseases in Europe have shown a situation that is very heterogeneous from a statistical viewpoint. Meanwhile, several countries admit that the number of diseases recognized as work-related is underestimated, due to a phenomenon of under-reporting by victims or their doctors.

To supplement work performed in 2011 and prepare EUROGIP’s 2014 contribution to the work of the Commission instituted by Article L.176.2 of the Social Security Code, research was devoted to Spain, Denmark and Italy, the European countries (apart from France) which publish information on the subject and which adopt measures designed to counter the phenomenon.

The document, to be published in the first half of 2014, proposes a comparative analysis of “occupational disease” reporting and statistical data systems, before examining the issue of under-reporting as described in these countries. Finally, it presents a selection of good practices.



# Collaborating on OSH projects funded by the European Union

## — France-Tunisia twinning cooperation



EUROGIP was called on by GIP International (French Ministry in charge of Labour), to take part in an EU-funded twinning arrangement to assist the Tunisian state. The project began in April 2012, for a period of two years. The aim is ultimately to improve the Tunisian occupational risk prevention system by bringing it closer to European standards and to help achieve the occupational injury and disease prevention objectives of the Tunisian plan.

Concretely, twinning cooperation entails:

- bringing the Tunisian and European regulatory frameworks closer to one another, while factoring in the economic and social repercussions of European regulations;
- developing appropriate OSH programmes, including occupational risk assessment, to act on the real causes of occupational injuries;
- developing organizations for control, inspection, coordination, assistance and the provision of services;
- promoting the involvement of intra-company OSH structures (occupational medicine departments, health and safety committees, Safety Managers);
- developing suitable, targeted communication to allow better assimilation of the message.

Most of the assignments by CARSAT\* experts in Tunisia took place in 2013. EUROGIP provided its support in organizing the assignments.

\* See page 2

## — “Joint action” for the promotion of mental health at work



At the end of 2011 the European Commission’s Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) launched a call for proposals to prepare a Joint

Action by Member States for the promotion of mental health. At present, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Finland, Croatia, Hungary and Slovenia are taking part. A sub-programme, coordinated by the German federal association of health insurance organizations (BKK), specifically concerns the promotion of mental health at work.

Like for any European Joint Action, only public authorities are authorized to take part. The Direction générale de la santé (DGS: French Health Service) accordingly called on the CNAMTS\*, which mandated EUROGIP to represent France in this programme devoted to mental health at work. EUROGIP’s assignment is to evaluate what is done in France by collecting the opinions of the main stakeholders: ministries, social partners, insurance companies, doctors, OSH organizations, etc.

The project began in early 2013 and will be completed by end-2015. In 2013, the SWOT survey (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) was carried out in France and a draft report was produced.

In October 2014, a seminar will allow the stakeholders surveyed in each country to compare their experiences. A reporting conference will be held in Berlin in June 2015 and will lead to proposals for concrete actions by DG SANCO.

# Sharing knowledge on occupational injuries in Europe

## — Monitoring and documentary assistance

The monitoring activity, one of EUROGIP's essential assignments, involves watching:

- changes in Community legislation and news from European authorities;
- regulatory changes in the areas of occupational safety and health and OSH insurance, and any structural changes in the competent organizations of EU countries;
- news concerning publications, survey results, events, etc. relating to occupational risk.

In 2013, the main themes examined by the Occupational Injuries Branch and covered by EUROGIP's activities were: retention in employment (case management in particular), SMEs/VSEs, psychosocial risks, preventing falls from a height (statistics), and medical monitoring of employees.

Two themes in particular were covered by substantial documentary research:

- The equivalents of French recommendations in Germany and Austria and their legal scope;
- Restraint systems used in Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland and the United Kingdom to prevent the risk of overturning of self-propelled trucks.

In parallel, the documentation centre handles the questions put to it concerning occupational safety and health, occupational risk prevention and OSH insurance in the various European countries.

The main users are the documentalists and consulting engineers of the pension and occupational health insurance funds (CARSATs), personnel of the French national research and safety institute INRS. Questions also come from companies (company managers, documentalists, safety personnel, industrial doctors, etc.).

## — Periodical publications

In 2013, EUROGIP offered three newsletters, on a non-paying subscription basis, via its website:

- EUROGIP Infos: news on occupational injury and disease insurance and prevention in Europe (quarterly, bilingual French/English version);
- EUROGIP InfoMail: summary articles on occupational safety and health in the EU (monthly, French/English);
- Norm@prév: news on occupational safety and health standardization (quarterly, French).

In the second half of 2013, a thorough study of these newsletters showed that it would be preferable to opt for the creation of a "mini-site" dedicated to occupational risks in Europe. This site, available in early 2014 under the name "EUROGIP infos" (at [www.eurogip.fr](http://www.eurogip.fr)), aims to:

- highlight the information supplied by EUROGIP;
- optimize the efficiency of a tool to search for and obtain access to information published earlier; and
- redefine EUROGIP's footprint in the area of information on occupational risks in Europe.

Regarding standardization in particular, it was decided to:

- keep Norm@prév, and restore its primary role of supplying information to the experts of the Occupational Injuries Branch who take part in the production of standards, and to a few targeted persons;
- include information relating to standardization of a European or international nature in the future "EUROGIP infos" website.

\* See page 2

— The EUROGIP Discussions: “Retention in employment in Europe and Canada”



The retention in employment of people suffering from a health problem, especially one of work-related origin, and the prevention of occupational deintegration have long been priorities in several European countries and in Canada. These activities form an integral part of the role of national OSH insurance organizations.

EUROGIP, whose mission is to observe foreign systems and encourage exchanges of experience, wanted to support the work France has undertaken in the area of retention in employment by holding its 2013 Discussions on this subject.

The representatives of Danish, Swiss, German, Swedish, Canadian, Belgian, Finnish, Icelandic and UK organizations outlined their actions aimed at:

- early detection of risks of occupational deintegration;
- medical and social rehabilitation of victims;
- retention in employment within the enterprise (adaptation of the work station or assignment to a new job);
- retention in employment (redeployment outside the enterprise in a job that is not necessarily the same);
- case management of the most serious cases by the occupational injury insurance organizations.

Like in previous editions, the EUROGIP Discussions aimed to provide the participants (mostly French) with a European perspective regarding a topical occupational risk issue. The proceedings, which summarize the essentials of the discussions between participants, were published in June 2013.

Proceedings at [http://www.eurogip.fr/images/publications/Proceedings\\_EUROGIPDiscussions\\_2013.pdf](http://www.eurogip.fr/images/publications/Proceedings_EUROGIPDiscussions_2013.pdf)

— New publications placed online in 2013

With the exception of specific reports for CNAMTS/DRP\*, the following publications were placed online on [www.eurogip.fr](http://www.eurogip.fr) in 2013:

- Statistical Review of Occupational Injuries FRANCE (2012 data)
- Financial incentives for occupational injury prevention in 7 European countries (Report in French only (“Incitations financières à la prévention des risques professionnels”))
- 2012 Annual Report
- 2012 Report on the standardization activity of the OH&S Network of the Occupational Injuries Branch
- Keeping people at work in Europe and Canada - Policies for rehabilitation and return-to-work - March 2013 Conference Proceedings
- Vocational training in occupational safety and health in 4 European countries
- Occupational Risks Insurance in Turkey: Organization and 2004-2011 Statistical Data
- What recognition of work-related mental disorders? A study on 10 European countries
- Occupational Risks Insurance in Spain: Organization and 2009-2011 Statistical Data

These documents are available at [www.eurogip.fr/en](http://www.eurogip.fr/en)

\* See page 2

# Learning and informing via networking

## — Relationships with organizations in the EU Member States, candidate States or neighbouring countries of the EU

### European Forum of the Insurance against Accidents at Work and Occupational Diseases



EUROGIP is especially involved in the “Occupational diseases” working group, which it has coordinated since its creation, and the “Communication” WG of the

European Forum. A new mandate concerning musculoskeletal disorders has been entrusted to the former; regarding the latter, EUROGIP has continued the work that it began in 2012 on overhaul and maintenance of the Website. It also contributed to the newsletter, Forum News, as French correspondent of the publication.

To find out more: [www.europeanforum.org](http://www.europeanforum.org)

### EUROSHNET



EUROGIP is a member of the Steering Committee of EUROSHNET, the European network of OSH experts involved in standardization, testing and certification. This network aims to facilitate exchanges between experts in order to define joint

positions on the issues dealt with. EUROGIP also coordinates one of the discussion forums (General Questions) on the website and contributes financially to its maintenance. In 2013 a lot of thought was also given to upgrading of the website, and in particular the possibility of making it accessible to a broader public. In this context, it was decided to experiment with LinkedIn. The preparation of the Euroshnet European conference, scheduled for the autumn of 2015, could be the subject of a “general public” forum in 2014 to test the potential of this professional network.

### Reception of foreign delegations

In 2013, EUROGIP received two delegations of Chinese labour inspectors, one consisting of 20 people from Jiangsu province and the other consisting of 8 people from Hubei province. They were especially interested in EUROGIP's activities, the accident rate at work and the area of occupational injuries in France and the other European countries.

### Organization of a CNAMTS/DGUV meeting

Following on from the year devoted to Franco-German friendship (2012-2013), EUROGIP organized a meeting between the German OSH insurance organization DGUV and the CNAMTS-DRP to discuss topical issues. The issues in question were disability management and the return to the workplace on the national and international levels, the incentivizing role of the risk premium rating system for occupational risk prevention, and the position and role of the “recommendations” (BG-Vorschriften in Germany) regarding occupational risk prevention.

### Standardization: preparation of a Franco-German joint declaration and Web conferences

Standards established on the European and international levels lay down technical requirements for products and define methods for measuring emissions (noise, vibrations, radiation and dangerous substances).

They also play an increasing role in non-technical fields, such as the harmonization of OSH management systems. In this context, EUROGIP, the INRS\* and the KAN(1) decided to confirm their excellent cooperation in the area of standardization by drafting a declaration defining a set of shared views and future joint commitments (which was officially signed in March 2014).

Following the success of a first Franco-German seminar in Brussels in 2012 for OSH personnel involved in standardization, the three organizers (EUROGIP, INRS and KAN) included the United Kingdom and decided to change this seminar into Web conferences. The aim is to help the experts obtain a better knowledge of the standardization organizations and of specific national features, and to raise their awareness of networking and of lobbying initiatives in the field of occupational safety and health standards.

The first Web conference will be held in the spring of 2014 on the revision of the “Personal Protective Equipment” directive.

[1] [www.kan.de](http://www.kan.de)

## — Publicizing EUROGIP and its activities

Due to its expertise, EUROGIP is called on by various partners to present papers on subjects coming within its competence. It did so on:

- case management :
  - During a public day organized by CARSAT\* Languedoc-Roussillon, in partnership with DIRECCTE(1) and ARACT(2) and with the support of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work in Bilbao;
  - At the invitation of the European Social Insurance Platform (ESIP), of which the Représentation des Institutions françaises de sécurité sociale auprès de l'European Union (REIF: Representation of French Social Security Institutions in the European Union) is a member.
- Occupational diseases and case management in Europe during the training day for the Health, Safety and Working Conditions Committee members of the CGT federation of employees in wooden construction and furniture.

The Group was also heard on two occasions, by:

- The French Parliament, as part of the preparation of the government bill for Social Security system financing in 2014; the Social Affairs Committee was interested in compensation for permanent damage in Europe, the recognition of occupational diseases and schemes for preventing occupational deintegration.
- The pension reform task force reporting to the prime minister, which showed special interest for foreign schemes encouraging employment of senior citizens and allowance for painful working conditions.

Finally, as it does each year, EUROGIP was invited to describe its activities during two training sessions for new recruits at the INRS\* and within the framework of sessions for the certification of CARSAT\* safety inspectors.

1) Direction régionale des entreprises, de la concurrence, de la consommation, du travail et de l'emploi (regional directorate for enterprises, competition, consumption, work and employment)

2) Association Régionale de l'Amélioration des Conditions de Travail (regional association for the improvement of working conditions)



## — Support for institutional partners

Based on its expertise, EUROGIP replies to the requests of its institutional partners, in particular the Occupational Injuries Branch, to perform research on precise subjects. For example, EUROGIP performed several studies to support DRP policies, concerning:

- Case management for serious occupational injuries in Germany, Belgium, Spain and Switzerland in particular; in addition to submitting a report to the DRP, EUROGIP organized meetings with experts on the issue in Germany, Spain and Switzerland.
- Risk premium rating procedures for OSH insurance in Germany, Austria, Belgium, Spain and Italy, and in particular practices for classifying enterprises in risk families and for calculating staff numbers (the study will continue in 2014).
- Falls from a height in the construction sector, notably from a statistical viewpoint, in Germany, Belgium, Spain and France.

At the request of the French Social Security Department, EUROGIP also performed research on the existence in other countries of complementary benefits paid to occupational injury victims in the event of a fault of the employer, and on the possibility of third-party legal action by the OSH insurer.

Lastly, EUROGIP keeps a watch on invitations to tender published by the Community authorities (Directorates General of the European Commission, European Foundation of Dublin, Eurostat) and by countries that are beneficiaries of European loans. It circulates to its institutional partners those that could interest them.

\* See page 2

# Ensuring joint positions to be asserted in France, in Europe and internationally

## — Coordinating the network of “standardization” experts of the Occupational Injuries Branch\*

### Coordinating the activity of the experts

EUROGIP coordinates the activity of the experts of the Occupational Injuries Branch who take part in the production of European and international standards concerning OSH. In 2013, these 83 experts (CRAMIF/CARSAT\*: 24; INRS\*: 57 and EUROGIP: 2) monitored work relating to the following themes: Safety of work equipment; Physical environments and workplaces, including ergonomics; Personal and collective protection; Building products. The private section of Normabase (accessible via the EUROGIP website) is reserved for these experts. It contains the list of experts, the structure of the European and International Technical Committees within which standardization work is performed, and information concerning the corresponding standardization committees. The first issue of Norm'actions was produced from data retrieved from this database, making it possible to circulate the information contained in the traditional Partenor, the directory of standardization experts, and Normavenir, the list of draft standards monitored by those experts.

### Follow-up and coordination of draft standards undergoing investigation

EUROGIP coordinates consultation in the Occupational Injuries Branch on draft standards undergoing investigation. For example, it issued a collective opinion on 24 of them, which mainly concerned the safety of work equipment (13 drafts), physical environments and building products (4 drafts respectively). The documentation departments of the CARSAT\* and INRS\* received these draft standards, which represent a total circulation of more than 973 copies in the Branch. Note that the public section of Normabase (at [www.eurogip.fr](http://www.eurogip.fr)) provides access to the state of progress on draft international, European and French standards.

### Coordination of standardization and implementation of the Branch's strategic guidelines

For the missions entrusted to it, EUROGIP is supported by:

- The Standardization Steering Committee (Copil Normalisation) formed by representatives of the management of CNAMTS-DRP\*, the INRS\*, CARSAT\* Auvergne and EUROGIP, which makes decisions relating to the participation of the Occupational Injuries Branch on such or such a subject;
- The Standardization Coordination, formed by representatives of CNAMTS-DRP, the INRS, CRAM Ile de France and EUROGIP, whose role is to implement the guidelines of the Standardization Steering Committee.

In 2013, therefore, EUROGIP continued to alert the Steering Committee concerning the creation of new working groups and the need to replace experts nearing retirement so that the Occupational Injuries Branch may be represented on subjects relating to occupational risk prevention. It also organized and managed Steering Committee meetings.

The 2012 annual report on the standardization activity of the Occupational Injuries Branch was published in September (available in French only).

[1] [www.eurogip.fr/images/Normalisation/Rapport%20normalisation%202012.pdf](http://www.eurogip.fr/images/Normalisation/Rapport%20normalisation%202012.pdf)

\* See page 2

## — Financing of certain work

EUROGIP is the sole correspondent of the standardization offices for any participation by the Occupational Injuries Branch in standardization activities. To optimize this participation, EUROGIP finances, in a few precisely defined areas, the work of the French committees in which the position to be put forward at the European or international level is worked out. In this framework, the agreement with the UTE (Union technique de l'électricité) was renewed in 2013 to support work in the area of electrical equipment for machinery.

EUROGIP also funded the annual registration fees of:

- 35 experts in 24 standardization committees managed by French mechanical engineering standardization association UNM;
- 38 experts in 26 Afnor standardization committees.

## — Updating of the “StandardWebPort”, a database of more than 3,000 OSH standards

In partnership with the Ministries in charge of Labour and Agriculture, EUROGIP took part in updating the “StandardWebPort”. This database covers all the published standards relating to health, safety and working conditions, i.e. 3,145 standards for the 20th version of this product. This represents more than 2,169 new pages.

StandardWebPort is made available to the documentation departments of the CARSAT\* and the INRS\*, and to trade union and industry organizations.

## — Forms for reporting OSH issues

Since 2008, the system for reporting OSH problems allows the Monitoring Office, a body placed under the aegis of the “Work Equipment” Expert Group, to take into account experience feedback from the field.

EUROGIP is a member of this Office. The reporting sheets helped to allow for experience feedback concerning derinding machines, baling presses, aerial baskets, lifts, beam saws and industrial forklift handling trucks.

## — Participation in the standardization work initiated on OSH management systems

In June 2013, the ISO adopted the British proposal to standardize requirements and guidelines for the implementation of Occupational Safety and Health Management Systems.

Although opposed to starting work on the subject, the Occupational Injuries Branch, in accordance with its monitoring role, must nevertheless ensure its presence in order to be constantly informed of the state of progress on this draft standard and, where applicable, be able to influence the discussions. Accordingly, EUROGIP took part in the first meeting of the new ISO PC 283 committee in London in October 2013, and in the kick-off meeting for the new French standardization committee Afnor X82A.

\* See page 2



# Defending a high level of safety for certified products

## — Secretariat for coordination of French notified bodies

This activity is defined by agreements signed with the French Ministries of Labour and Agriculture. It involves coordinating the activity of the notified bodies with the European Commission to implement the procedures for evaluation of personal protective equipment (PPE) and machinery described in the corresponding directives and transposed into the labour code. The aim is to harmonize the practices and procedures of the bodies, to solve the often complex technical problems still remaining, to integrate the standardization work and to prepare the positions to be defended at the European level and thereby ensure a high level for the certified products. This harmonization requires drawing up sheets for interpretation of the rules.

### Main subjects covered in the field of PPE

- Revision of the Directive, which could lead to a new text, a Directive or a Regulation; the public authorities were alerted regarding the EC type examination procedure, which should be kept unchanged (maintaining the notified body for conformity assessment).
- Safety boots incorporating an anti-perforation sole: although these boots are in conformity with the harmonized standard, users have been injured following perforation of the sole. The date of termination of the presumption of conformity of the old standard has been delayed by one year to enable the manufacturers to have certified boots re-evaluated according to the new reference system (several hundred boots are concerned).
- The standard on anchorage systems dating from 1996 which, although it has been revised, is the subject of a formal objection because some of the products described are apparently not PPE.
- The establishment of reference systems for the accreditation of notified bodies, which was delayed following a decision of the European Commission disputing the choice of a reference system for the accreditation of a notified body for the Toys directive. The subject of accreditation remains sensitive and is a source of distortions due to the lack of harmonization between the various accreditation organizations

of the Member States.

- The validity of EC type examination certificates following revision of the standards which gave a presumption of conformity with the applicable essential requirements; decisions in this area have consequences for the products targeted during market surveillance campaigns.
- The protocols worked out for gloves and clothing designed for non-professional motorcyclists and allowing the notified bodies to evaluate the conformity of these products in the absence of appropriate standards.

### Main subjects covered in the field of machinery

- Risks related to devices for the lifting of persons (in wind turbines, for example) and moving parts (industrial remote controls for controlling vehicle lifts).
- The formal objection introduced by France concerning the standard on rear-loading waste collection tip trucks, and the amendment designed in response to the risks not covered by the standard that motivated the formal objection.
- Products complying with the definition of a logical unit performing safety functions.
- Devices for detection of electric power lines and the definition of a safety function.
- Further work to determine the applicable reference systems for accreditation of notified bodies for safety components, for cardan shafts and their guards, and for fixing machinery. The European Commission uses as a basis the modules defined in Decision 768/2008 whereas the French approach was instead based on the type of machinery; like for PPE, the situation at the European level is unstable and unclear.
- Criteria regarding the modification of machinery and safety criteria.

Official documents at <http://www.eurogip.fr/fr/produits-information/documents-officiels-de-l-ue>

Useful documents (in French only) at <http://www.eurogip.fr/index.php/fr/2012-12-17-10-52-32/nos-activites/30-coordination-des-organismes-notifies>

## — Certification activity of the bodies

EUROGIP collected the reports on EC type examination certificates issued by the notified bodies, and the decisions taken under Article 11 of the PPE Directive and Annex X of the Machinery Directive.

The overall activity of notified bodies in the field of PPE is measured by the number of ATEX EC certificates issued. The sharp increase noted in 2011 was confirmed in 2012, and then in 2013.

In the field of machinery, the bodies did not renew ATEX 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. All the EC type certificates issued in 2013 were issued under the 2006/42/EC Directive.

The database of EC type examination certificates for PPE and Machinery, unique in Europe, is a tool for use by ministries which can also provide useful information for market surveillance campaigns.

## — Participation in the European Coordination of Notified Bodies for PPE

EUROGIP took part in several meetings in which discussions were held concerning:

- Relations between vertical groups, which establish user recommendations, and the standardization working groups;
- Evaluation on a case-by-case basis of the provision, for people or organizations outside the vertical groups, of certain documents established by the Coordination;
- Transfer of documents in the possession of a notified body which ceases its activities;
- Revision of the current directive and consequences of the implementation of the new directive for existing EC type examination certificates;
- Revision of a number of user recommendation sheets;
- Accreditation and notification of the notified bodies in the various Member States or accession countries which, like in the field of machinery, show great disparities.



## — Technical Secretariat of the European Coordination of Notified Bodies for Machinery

Since the start of 2010 and until the end of 2013, EUROGIP acted as technical secretariat for the European Coordination of Notified Bodies. As part of this work, it prepared and ran the two meetings of the Horizontal Committee which took place in 2013.

EUROGIP continued to assist with the registration of notified bodies in the new CIRCABC (Communication and Information Resource Centre for Administrations, Businesses and Citizens) database. It also continued to merge the CIRCABC and NANDO (New Approach Notified and Designated Organisations) databases so that all notified bodies may have at least one representative registered in CIRCABC to receive the documents produced by the Coordination.

The Netherlands Standardisation Institute will act as technical secretariat for the European Coordination of Notified Bodies from the start of 2014 until the end of 2017.

EUROGIP will nevertheless continue to represent the French notified bodies in European Coordination meetings.



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[www.eurogip.fr](http://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



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