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Acronyms and abbreviations frequently used

AMRP	Assurance Maladie - Risques professionnels Health-Occupational Risks Insurance	
CARSAT	Caisse d'assurance retraite et de la santé au travail Retirement and Occupational Health Insurance Fund (regional)	
CAT/MP	Commission des accidents du travail et des maladies professionnelles (elle fixe les orientations politiques de l'Assurance Maladie - Risques professionnels) Occupational injuries Commission (sets the policy guidelines for the Health-Occupational Risks Insurance)	
CGSS	Caisse générale de sécurité sociale (4 caisses dans les DOM) Overseas Health Insurance Funds (4 Funds)	
CNAM	Caisse nationale de l'assurance maladie (anciennement CNAMTS) National Health Insurance Fund (formerly CNAMTS)	
CRAMIF	Caisse régionale d'assurance maladie d'Ile-de-France Regional Health Insurance Fund of Ile-de-France	
DRP	Direction des risques professionnels (au sein de la CNAM) Occupational Risks Department (within CNAM)	
INRS	Institut national de recherche et de sécurité pour la prévention des accidents du travail et maladies professionnelles National Research and Safety Institute for prevention of occupational injuries	
OS&H	Occupational safety and health	

The Health-Occupational Risks Insurance:

Also referred to as the **Occupational Injuries Branch**, it comprises the Occupational Risks Department (CNAM), INRS, EUROGIP, the risk prevention and premium rating services of the CARSAT funds / CRAMIF / CGSS, the sections in charge of examining occupational injuries cases and paying compensation to victims in the CGSS and in the primary health insurance funds (CPAM) and the medical service.



EUROGIP in short

Observatory and resource centre

To improve occupational health and safety, work must be done upstream to develop deeper knowledge and explore the best means of action, both in France and internationally. This is our "raison d'être".

EUROGIP is an observatory and a resource centre on occupational injury prevention and on insurance against these risks on the European level and beyond. It is supported by a strong network that it has built up over the years in the Community bodies and in prevention and insurance organizations elsewhere. Its activities focus on the following main areas:

- Public relations & communication
- Information & monitoring
- Studies & surveys
- Projects of Community interest
- OS&H standardization work
- Coordination of "machinery" & "PPE" notified bodies

Creation

1991

Team

- Pierre BELINGARD
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("Groupement d'intérêt public") Public interest grouping formed by the CNAM and the INRS. It ismainly financed by the National Fund for the Prevention of occupational injuries.

Equi-representational Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is formed of employee and employer representatives on a 50/50 basis. Its members are nominated by the Occupational Injury and Disease Commission (CAT/MP) and INRS. President: Christian Expert (CFE-CGC) Vice-President: Daniel BOGUET (U2P)





Raphaël HAEFLINGER

A word from the managing director

2020 was an unprecedented year for everyone. The health crisis had an obvious impact on achievement of the objectives initially set in the programme of activity.

For example, we had to postpone our Discussions (Les Débats d'EUROGIP) just a few days before they were to be held in March 2020. We also had to give up in-person meetings which are precious for discussions both for preparing occupational health and safety standards, for the coordination of notified bodies for the certification of machinery and PPE, and for the international relations of the AMRP.

But the crisis also led us, through force of circumstance, to innovate in work processes to ensure the continuation of our numerous activities.

The personnel adapted effectively to remote meetings and teleworking, which were (almost) a novelty for us.

Regarding the work performed, EUROGIP was very active in fully playing its role as a resource centre, gathering information concerning the pandemic-related measures adopted beyond our borders. With regard to prevention of risks of contamination at work, arrangements for recognition of Covid-19 as Accidents at work / Occupational diseases, and the regulations applicable to protective masks, we launched benchmarks and responded to numerous requests from our partners on these issues. We also published information relating to practices in the other European countries and on the Community level.

More than ever, it proved important to have knowledge of extranational practices, when every country had to manage the crisis and, in most cases, innovate in their insurance and prevention practices.

In 2021, we will build on this experience to make an ever-greater contribution to the sharing of knowledge on occupational risks beyond our borders.

Pleasant reading!



Highlights of our activity in 2020

Public relations & communication



A policy of communication and dialogue with our French and European partners in fields related to occupational risks establishes trust with a view to networking, which is the very basis of EUROGIP's activities.

Coordination of the international relations of the Occupational Injuries Branch

By delegation of authority from the DRP, EUROGIP centralizes and disseminates information on the international activities in which the AMRP's personnel take part. This activity, included in the objectives and management Agreement ("<u>Convention d'objectifs et de gestion (COG) 2018-2022</u>), aims to promote the activities carried out, both in-house and with the AMRP's partners.

To promote a knowledge of this organization and of its international activities, EUROGIP translated into English an introductory brochure entitled "Key features of 2019: Health and safety in the workplace".

Within the framework of this mission, EUROGIP:

- is a member of specialist commission No. 1 of the National Steering Committee on Working Conditions (CNOCT: "Conseil National d'Orientation sur les Conditions de Travail"). It accordingly requested that its works (Discussions/studies) which also contribute to the application of the European OH&S directives should appear in the evaluation reports produced by the National Directorate of Labour (DGT);
- it is an affiliate member of the International Social Security Association (ISSA) and now represents the Occupational Injuries Branch in the Coordination of French institutions that are members of the ISSA (CIFM AISS).

The first AMRP Report on International Activities will cover information relating to 2019 and 2020, bearing in mind that, in 2020, the health crisis significantly reduced international activity.



European Forum of Insurance against accidents at work and occupational diseases

EUROGIP is a longstanding participant in the work of the European Forum, including the work of the "Communication" group. For example, it has taken charge of maintenance and updating of the website for several years now, it created the Forum's Twitter account and it has been the French correspondent for the publication Forum News since its launch in 1993.

At the end of 2020, a special Covid-19 issue, based on a questionnaire prepared by the AUVA (Austria), compiled the members' answers as to how occupational injury and disease insurance organizations had organized to continue their activity despite the health crisis.

The website is becoming obsolete, and its revamping was approved by the Forum members. The DGUV (Germany), which is president of the Forum, will take charge of this. Information will be input to the site jointly by the DGUV, AUVA and EUROGIP.

Cooperation agreement with KOSHA (Korea)

At the start of 2020, EUROGIP met the Director of International Cooperation of the Korean Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA) to discuss the renewal of a bipartite cooperation agreement signed previously with the CRAMIF which was due to expire.

A new agreement was signed in the summer of 2020 between KOSHA and EUROGIP. The objective is to be able to exchange ideas on various subjects of mutual interest, to relay information on occupational safety and health in both countries, and even organize work meetings on specific issues.

Outside contributions and speeches

Based on its expertise, EUROGIP is called on to take part in certain work, present the results of its work, cast a European spotlight on a topical issue, and establish relations between the Branch's personnel and colleagues in other countries.

These requests were severely impacted by the health crisis, with less work performed outside and at the same time very targeted requests on this issue.

A few examples of the responses provided by EUROGIP that are note exhaustive are mentioned below.

Requests outside the health crisis context

- EN3S (École nationale supérieure de sécurité sociale National School of Social Security) wanted to develop training courses for French-speaking Africa on the ISSA guidelines. With assistance from EUROGIP, two former employees of the AMRP were presented to the school to develop the framework for training on prevention and the return to the workplace, but also to take part in this training where appropriate. It was important for the Branch to take part in these training courses concerning its core activity. EUROGIP also responded favourably by conducting two modules (2021) on occupational injury and disease insurance systems in Europe and the prevention of occupational deintegration.
- The Commission's work on the under-reporting of occupational injuries having been postponed by one year due to the health crisis, at the end of 2020 EUROGIP compiled the first statistical information allowing a comparison between countries regarding the OD incidence rate. The Commission has to submit a report to the Government every three years evaluating the cost to the health insurance system of the under-reporting of accidents at work and occupational diseases.



- **DARES / Ministry of Labour**: research on occupational diseases incidence rate data on the European and global levels.
- Social Security Department: reply to additional technical questions on the prevention of occupational deintegration and retention in employment further to the note published by EUROGIP on the practices in four European countries (May 2019).
- **CRAMIF**: research on European countries' choices regarding the variables to be documented in the statistics on accidents at work to be sent to EUROSTAT according to the ESAW methodology.

Requests related to Covid-19

EUROGIP received many requests from the outset of the health crisis and throughout 2020 to inform French and foreign partners on the various issues related to Covid-19.

Without being exhaustive, EUROGIP responded, for example, to:

- a survey by the German insurance organization DGUV concerning the scope in France of occupational injury insurance coverage when workers are present in person and when they are working from home;
- a request from the INSST (Spain) concerning the categories of masks reserved for non-sanitary use;
- numerous requests as part of its activity of coordination of PPE notified bodies (see below), including research on foreign standards concerning the manufacture of masks, and regulations on wearing masks and their disinfection.



Information & monitoring



EUROGIP monitors on the European level (EU and member countries), and also internationally, subjects related to OS&H, risk prevention and occupational injury and disease insurance: regulations, strategies, standards, statistics, publications, conferences, etc. It shares this knowledge via various media: newsletter, survey reports, thematic memos, conferences, webinars, etc.

2020 EUROGIP Discussions on occupational risk prevention in the sector of healthcare for the elderly

The EUROGIP Discussions were to be held on 12 March 2020. Faced with the health crisis and the probable announcement of a lockdown, the Board of Directors decided to postpone the conference until 22 September. But the situation being unfavorable for holding a European event, it was decided once again to postpone it until March 2021.

A very great majority of the speakers expected in 2020 agreed to take part in 2021.



Revamping of the EUROGIP website and EUROGIP Infos

The new version of the website was placed online at the end of December 2019. In the first few months of 2020, a few bugs were corrected and certain functionalities and visual features were improved.

Also, it was considered important to highlight information on the prevention of pandemic-related risks at work and insurance for Covid-19 victims.

Improvements were also made to the EUROGIP Infos newsletter at the end of 2020.

Throughout the year, the three most frequently read articles concerned:

- 1. The EUROGIP Discussions;
- 2. European Commission information on the assessment of PPE against Covid-19;
- 3. The free supply of standards for masks.



Monitoring and documentary assistance

Monitoring is an essential part of EUROGIP's missions, focusing on:

- news on the Community level and in European countries on various issues relating to occupational risks: legislation, invitations to tender, standardization, publications, survey results, events, etc.;
- developments relating to occupational injury prevention and insurance in the Member States and any structural changes in the competent organizations.

In 2020, Covid-19 became a key topic for monitoring, from the viewpoints of both insurance (recognition criteria, statistics, etc.) and prevention (social distancing, teleworking, PPE, PSRs, etc.).

Among the other topics monitored very closely, we can note: the prevention of occupational deintegration, multifactorial diseases, psychosocial risks, work-related cancers, asbestos, teleworking, MSDs, temporary workers and the wearing of masks (PPE). Also, in Germany special attention was paid to government bills relating to teleworking and the improvement of working conditions and health and safety in slaughterhouses.

The monitoring results are used in-house as input data for works and publications. EUROGIP also replies to questions from the Board of Directors, the CARSAT funds, employers, employees, etc.

Standards watch

The aim is to be vigilant concerning three points in particular:

- The emergence of new standardization issues or bodies, projects underway (including probative enquiries), and revision of existing standards on fields invested or not.
- Increased use of new formats of normative documents, such as CEN Workshop Agreements (CWAs), produced very rapidly without the participation of all the stakeholders, which requires attentive monitoring and, if necessary, the coordinated participation of the Occupational Injuries Branch.
- Growing application of standardization in non-technical fields such as health services, the circular economy and OSH management systems, and the globalization of work. These changes are all new challenges to be faced. The monitoring of standards in the social and societal field allows the Occupational Injuries Branch to be positioned as far upstream as possible in the process.

Press relations and social media

EUROGIP continued to maintain relations with specialized publication media, particularly online.

The publications range from a mere news flash announcing the Discussions, for example, to more substantial articles such as that on Health and Work published in October 2020, entitled "variable recognition practices in Europe". The <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Linkedin</u> accounts were fed data regularly and increased their number of subscribers.



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Studies & surveys



The research subjects are usually chosen at the request of the EUROGIP founding members, CNAM-DRP and INRS. The aim is to cast a European spotlight on a topical question in France. Apart from concept notes related to current events, the results of studies and surveys give rise to publications available on eurogip.fr.

Covid-19 and OH&S insurance in eight European countries

As of the spring of 2020, several European countries adopted positions regarding the recognition of Covid-19 as an occupational injury and/or an occupational disease. EUROGIP therefore wrote a report covering eight countries: Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Finland, Italy, Luxembourg and Sweden.

At this stage these countries had introduced Covid-19 into their system of recognition in force and specified the conditions relating to the publics concerned and the proof to be provided. Depending on the country, this disease can be recognized as an OI, an OD, or both. The report explains for each country the various practical and regulatory steps which led to the case management system. In fact, this mostly concerns healthcare personnel, by establishing a presumption regarding them, whereas other workers must prove their exposure to the virus.

Covid-19 and occupational health and safety

In this report EUROGIP brought together examples of occupational health and safety guidelines and good practices on the European and national levels to be implemented within the framework of business continuity or recovery related to Covid-19.

The examples concern ten countries: Germany, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Spain, the United States, France, Ireland, Portugal and Switzerland. Most of them are issued by authorities and social partners. The report is based on processing of the public data posted online at the date of its publication (April 2020).



Covid-19 and clusters in slaughterhouses



For the Occupational Risks Department of CNAM, EUROGIP performed research on the specific case of slaughterhouses where workers in many countries formed infection clusters.

According to various Brazilian, Taiwanese, US and German documents, it seems that this infectivity is related to a problem of work organization (working hours, number of people on the work chains, housing conditions, etc.). Accordingly, the German government decided to propose to Parliament a bill reorganizing working conditions in slaughterhouses, including, in particular, a ban on the hiring of temporary workers in this sector.



Projects of Community interest



EUROGIP replies to invitations to tender coming within its field of competence and published either by the EU (European Commission, Eurostat, EU-OSHA, Eurofound, etc.) or by countries receiving EU loans. It also performs services either as a member of European consortiums or as a subcontractor of organizations which have themselves replied to said invitations to tender.

Definition of a new methodology for gathering Occupational diseases statistics on the European level

The "EODS Task Force" (European Occupational Diseases Statistics) was set up by Eurostat in early 2017 to define a new methodology concerning the production of harmonized European statistics on occupational diseases.

This group of about ten experts, including EUROGIP, met virtually in 2020 to work on the production of an EU index and a "national profile" sheet which will accompany the published statistics, indicating the country's specific insurance features. EUROGIP took charge of this sheet for France on the basis of what Eurostat had written.

At the end of December, Eurostat posted online on an experimental basis information concerning the methodology and concerning this EU index, inviting users and researchers to react.

"EU-OSHA" framework agreement on MSD prevention

Under the contract that it had won with its partners Vhp and PANTEIA (NL), in the first quarter of 2020 EUROGIP finalized the collection of information relating to the practical tools and resources available globally to improve knowledge of MSDs and help companies prevent them.

This information is designed to be input to the EU-OSHA database which is now available as part of the 2020-2022 pan-European campaign on MSD prevention.

In December 2020, EU-OSHA called on EUROGIP to continue this research work and add resources to the MSD database throughout 2021.





European OSH Barometer - Labour Inspectorate Indicator (2019-2020)

The European Commission and EU-OSHA wanted to develop a European OSH information system. This includes an online <u>Barometer</u> with information on each EU Member State and a three-yearly report placing the data in perspective.

In December 2019, EUROGIP had won the EU-OSHA invitation to tender to continue development of the "Labour Inspectorate" indicator of this Barometer. The aim was to identify and to analyze the sources of data available in Europe.

On completion of this work (January-October 2020), a new structure was proposed to EU-OSHA for this indicator. And a draft presentation of the Labour Inspectorate organization was produced for three Member States: Denmark, France and Poland.

Between 2016 and 2018, EUROGIP had already taken part, in conjunction with the German organization KOOP, in developing the future Barometer and collecting the initial data.



AMRP: OH&S standardization work



A network of 77 experts

2020

In 2020, EUROGIP coordinated the activity of 77 experts (at CARSAT, CRAMIF, INRS and EUROGIP), who took part in the preparation of standards in the 25 French commissions, 36 European Technical Committees (CEN and CENELEC) and 20 international Technical Committees (ISO and IEC).

EUROGIP provides them with all the necessary assistance in their work with the standardization offices. It consults them on draft standards, the creation of technical committees, five-yearly revisions, etc.

This makes it possible, moreover, to take the decision to participate or not.

The aim is also to inform and train the new experts concerning the French, European and international standards systems.

"Occupational safety and health" standards are references for manufacturers and designers in order to allow for prevention as of the product and workplace design stage. The AMRP, under EUROGIP's coordination, takes part in their production on the French, European and international levels, in order to assert its viewpoints.

The "Standardization Plenary"

Meeting virtually on 25 November 2020, the standardization experts were able to obtain information and hold discussions on various issues: chemical risk and the prevention of occupational cancers, evaluation of exposure to chemical and biological agents in the workplace, equipment for protection against Covid-19, etc.

Following the meeting held in 2019, an "Advice sheet for the standardization experts of the Occupational Injuries Branch" was produced in 2020. This internal document covers good practices. It provides clarification and advice based on situations encountered by the experts during their standardization work and gives a list of useful websites to perform their work as well as possible.

Sector	INRS	CARSAT	CRAN
Machine safety	17	6	9
Personal protective equipment	9	0	0
Workplaces and physical environments	21	1	3
Construction	6	3	3
Cross-cutting / miscellaneous issues	0	0	0
Strategic aspects of standardization	1	0	0

Distribution of experts* from the occupational injuries branch in standa

Supervision of standardization activity and presence in strategic bodies



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In 2020, EUROGIP coordinated the development of AMRP positions in the context of numerous consultations in the standards system concerning:

- the creation of new bodies (ISO technical committees "Artificial Intelligence", "Laboratory Design", etc.),
- the launch of new topics: ISO workshop on safe working and physical distancing in times of pandemic, CEN workshops on exoskeletons, health and safety protocols for the tourism sector in the context of Covid-19, safety competences in collaborative robotics applications, etc.
- the revision of the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC from a standardization perspective
- the European Commission's standardization requests for personal protective equipment, for explosive

EUROGIP's role is to alert the CNAM and INRS concerning the setting up of working groups, the launching of projects and the need for replacement of experts so that the Occupational Injuries Branch may be represented on matters that are important for it.

It prepares and organizes meetings of the Standardization Steering Committee both for strategic thinking concerning the standardization action of the Branch and for decision making regarding participation in new standardization work.

The Group maintained its capability for weighing on the normative consensus and influencing standardization strategy. It took part, for example, in the bodies in which the main guidelines of OH&S standardization programmes are decided on: AFNOR strategic policy committees on 'Occupational Health and Safety' and 'Management and Services', the European Strategic Advisory Body for Occupational Health and Safety standardization (CEN SABOHS), and the CEN advisory bureau for machinery standardization ("Machinery Forum").

EUROGIP is also a member of the AFNOR "Cercle des coordonnateurs normalisation" allowing an exchange of good standardization practices between representatives of large groups and government departments. Through these participations, it was able to contribute, in particular, to:

- producing strategic guidelines for "CoS SST" in light of the measures of the French Occupational Health Plan 2016-2020 (<u>PST3</u>) and the guidelines and priorities of the Occupational Injuries Branch's "<u>COG 2018-2022</u>" objectives and management agreement, lobbying, for example, concerning the CEN's position regarding the planned revision of the Machinery Directive or for the recognition and dissemination of EUROGIP's position on incidence rate indicators;
- continuing work on the design of a European early information system to detect draft European normative documents, or even international documents (EN, TS, TR, CWA) dealing directly or indirectly with employers' obligations and responsibilities regarding working conditions and OH&S within the framework of the SABOHS.

Financing of certain work

As the single correspondent of the standards offices for all the Occupational Injuries Branch's contributions to standardization, EUROGIP paid the annual registration fees of 39 experts in 23 "Safety of Machinery" standardization committees run by the UNM (Union de normalisation de la mécanique), and of 4 experts in 3 automotive standards committees of the BNA (Bureau de normalisation de l'automobile).

It provided financial support for the work of the AFNOR and AFNOR-DELEC (electrotechnologies) standardization committees in the major standardization areas covered by the experts (see previous page).



Supervision and coordination of investigations

In 2020, the Standardization experts and authorities were consulted on 23 draft standards in a public survey covering the following subjects:

- Safety of machinery (construction machinery, lifting and handling equipment, etc.): 13
- Personal protective equipment (PPE): 1
- Workplaces and physical environments:
- Construction: 5

Following these

consultations, opinions on these drafts were issued in the name of the AMRP and circulated to more than 1.600 recipients.

"Forms for handling prevention problems"

The Occupational Injuries Branch contributes indirectly to supervision of the machinery market thanks to these forms launched in 2006. Produced by CARSAT personnel following an observation made by them or an incident/accident concerning manufacturers, these forms can be used to report information from the field. The objective is also to detect the absence of a standard, or a measure that is provided for in the standard but is not applied or inadequate. The initiatives taken by the Branch succeed, over a more or less long period, in bringing manufacturers into compliance and improving existing European standards.

Participation in AFNOR's work in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic

EUROGIP took part in work on drafting the AFNOR SPEC S76 guide to "Design of protective face masks".

It contributed to halting work undertaken by AFNOR on protective face shields. This was because the technical design and validation recommendations suggested in the draft could have led to the market release of dangerous, ineffective products. This position was supported by the Occupational Injuries Branch, the competent national authorities and the French Coordination of Notified Bodies due to the non-compliance of this equipment with the PPE regulations (see section on Coordination of PPE and Machinery Notified Bodies).

Normabase, Norm'actions and "WebPort"

Normabase is a database containing OH&S standards currently being prepared on the international, European and French levels. It also contains a "Who does what" bringing together the contact details of the experts and the bodies in which they are registered, their competencies and reporting information on this activity.

Norm'actions is produced based on the data retrieved from Normabase. Circulated to around 280 people at AMRP, it reviews the progress on draft standards on which experts from the Branch have performed effective work or an active watch.

Also, in partnership with the Ministries of Labour and Agriculture, EUROGIP took part in updating the "Webport" database. The 2020 version contains 50 new standards, giving a total of 2,097 published standards in force (in a French version and, where applicable, an English version) relating to health, safety and working conditions, and 2,037 cancelled standards.

The tool is made available to the documentation departments of the CARSAT funds, CRAMIF and INRS, and to the social partners in the Branch, via the internet.



In the autumn of 2020, 35 experts replied to a EUROGIP survey to attempt to assess the impact of the health crisis on their standardization work. It shows that the great majority of meetings planned before the lockdown were maintained and held remotely. Only ten in-person meetings were able to be held.

Admittedly, this health crisis caused difficulties such as more laborious communication, and complications in consensus-building. But the standardization systems and the experts adapted remarkably, and real time saving, improved reactivity and greater comfort could be observed.

Euroshnet

Euroshnet is the European network of experts working in OS&H organizations in Europe and involved in standardization, testing and certification. EUROGIP is a member of the Steering Committee and the permanent secretariat.

As such, in 2020 it worked on preparation of the seventh European conference which was to be held in Paris on 14 October 2021, on the theme "Artificial intelligence meets safety and health at work". This conference was finally put off until October 2022, counting on an improvement in the health situation to be able to hold it with physical attendance. This decision confirms one of Euroshnet's primary objectives: encouraging interaction between stakeholders.



Coordination of "machinery" and "PPE" notified bodies



Under the authority of the French Ministries of Labour and Agriculture, EUROGIP manages the competent French Coordination of Notified Bodies for assessing the conformity of personal protective equipment (PPE) and machinery. The Coordination foster a uniform interpretation of Community legislation and ensure a high level of safety for certified products.

equipment (PPE, Regulation 2016/425)

EUROGIP organized two meetings of the General Committee comprising the various ministries (Labour, Agriculture and Industry) and the nine notified bodies covering all the protective products and devices subject to third-party conformity assessment procedures (Regulation 2016/425).

These meetings are an opportunity to determine joint positions applicable by the French bodies, to prepare the French positions to be asserted on the European level, and to discuss the decisions taken during meetings between Member States.

In 2020 the work was severely disrupted by the pandemic, since it was not possible to meet on either the French or European level. However, virtual meetings enabled discussion of technical aspects related to the assessment of critical products for combating Covid-19.

During the health crisis, EUROGIP was also called on to take part in various activities in support of national authorities.

In response to the European Commission's Recommendation 2020/403 authorizing the market supervisory authorities to relax the conditions for placing PPE on the market and enjoining the notified bodies to introduce PPE conformity assessment procedures enabling rapid placing on the market of essential PPE in response to the health crisis, EUROGIP took part in the following activities:

- Support for drafting and approval on the European level of the reference sheet (RFU 02.075) concerning an assessment procedure dedicated to FFP2/FFP3 masks providing protection against Covid-19.
- Establishment of a protocol for assessing foreign certificates issued for products in accordance with foreign standards referenced in the interministerial instruction of 31 March 2020 and its updates. This protocol was to be used by the French authorities to identify which products (surgical masks or filter masks) had forged certificates, and thereby avoid the purchase by government entities of counterfeit products, or even dangerous products.
- Establishment of a protocol for assessment by French notified bodies of specific face shields providing protection against Covid-19, a protocol summarized in the newsletter of 30 April 2020.
- Establishment, at the request of the National Directorate of Labour (DGT), of monitoring of certificates (EU type examination certificates) issued by the French notified bodies for PPE such as face shields and protective masks. This monitoring should help market supervision personnel control the products covered by the interministerial note of 31 March thanks to which it is possible, for a limited period, to place on the market PPE for which conformity assessment by a notified body is underway although not finalized (the product can continue to be supplied to the market provided that the conformity assessment turns out to be positive).



In the field of machinery (Directive 2006/42/EC, as amended)

Despite the pandemic, preparatory work for the revision of the Machinery Directive continued in 2020. The French notified bodies were called on to help establish the position of the national authorities on various subjects.

Only three coordination meetings, including one meeting of the General Committee (which brings together six notified bodies), were able to be held by videoconferencing.

European Coordination for PPE

EUROGIP took part in a Steering Committee meeting and a plenary meeting of the European Coordination of notified bodies for PPE. The discussions covered:

- the conformity assessment of products essential for combating the Covid-19 pandemic;
- revision of the RfUs (Recommendation for Use sheets) and the preparation of new sheets related to the PPE assessment procedures, the review of certifications, and the establishment of production monitoring audits;
- Brexit: the European Coordination of Notified Bodies questioned the European Commission at length on the impacts of Brexit for the UK notified bodies and for manufacturers having EC type examination certificates issued by those bodies.

Certification activity of the bodies

EUROGIP collected the reports on EC/EU type examination certificates issued by the notified bodies, and the decisions taken under modules C.2 and D of the PPE Regulation and Annex X of the Machinery Directive.

Following the overhaul of EUROGIP's tool for the monitoring and collection of certificates, no reliable statistic is currently available for 2020. However, Covid-19 definitely impacted the number of certificates issued by the notified bodies.



EUROGIP, a public interest grouping created in 1991 by the French Health-Occupational Risks Insurance, is an observatory and resource centre on occupational risk prevention and insurance in Europe.

eurogip.fr

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