

April 2025 Ref. Eurogip 200/E ISBN 979-10-97358-86-0 Abbreviations, symbols and acronyms

AW(s)	Accident(s) at work
OD(s)	Occupational disease(s)
PPE	Personal protective equipment
PSRs	Psychosocial risks
OSH	Occupational safety and health
MSDs	Musculoskeletal disorders
ISSA	International Social Security Association
ANSES	Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation, de l'environnement et
	du travail (French National Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational
	Health and Safety)
CARSAT	Caisse d'assurance retraite et de la santé au travail (Retirement and
	Occupational Health Insurance Fund: 16 regional funds)
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
CEN	European Committee for Standardization
CENELEC	European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
CGSS	Caisse générale de sécurité sociale (General Social Security Fund: 4 funds in the
	French overseas departments)
CNAM	Caisse nationale de l'assurance maladie (French National Health Insurance
	Fund)
CNOCT	Conseil national d'orientation des conditions de travail (Steering Committee on
_	Working Conditions)
CRAMIF	Caisse régionale d'assurance maladie d'Ile-de-France (Ile-de-France Regional
	Health Insurance Fund)
DGT	Direction générale du travail (National Directorate of Labour)
DRP	Direction des risques professionnels (Occupational Risks Department, within
	CNAM) - CNAM-DRP
ETUC	European Trade Union Confederation
EU-OSHA	European Agency for Safety and Health at Work
IGAS	Inspection générale des affaires sociales (General Inspectorate for Social Affairs)
INRS	Institut national de recherche et de sécurité pour la prévention des AT/MP
	(National Institute for Research and Safety for the Prevention of Accidents at
100	Work and Occupational Diseases)
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
NB	Notified body
OPPBTP	Organisme professionnel de prévention du bâtiment et des travaux publics
	(Occupational Risk Prevention Organization for the Building and Public Works
Dfula	Industries)
RfUs	Recommendation for Use sheets
ESAW	European Statistics on Accidents at Work

# Contents

EDITORIAL	5
EUROGIP, WHO ARE WE?	6
DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE	8
Publications for a European vision of OSH	8
Focus on European Union law applicable to OSH	8
EUROGIP Discussions: 1 <sup>st</sup> episode on OSH within the European Union	9
Ongoing study: Number of accidents at work in six European countries	9
Specific themes addressed from a European perspective	10
Focus on the new Directive on the employment of digital platforms	10
EUROGIP Discussions: 2 <sup>nd</sup> episode on working in extreme heat	11
Ongoing study: Mapping the prevention of psychosocial risks	
An international monitoring to ensure daily information	12
Monitoring and documentary assistance on insurance and prevention of AWs/ODs	12
Monitoring in the field of OSH standardization	13
Information dissemination channels	
SHARING EXPERTISE	. 14
Nationwide coverage	
Examples of specific interventions	
Number of accidents at work: requests from the media, partners and public decision-makers	
Participation in the works of the Commission L176-2	16
European and international collaboration	
Contracts with EU-OSHA	17
Contribution to ISSA activities	18
Bilateral cooperation with South Korea (COMWEL)	19
Stakeholder of European networks	20
Participation in the European Forum on Occupational Injuries Branch	20
Co-working with Eurostat	21
Founding member of Euroshnet	21
Presence in strategic bodies	22
COORDINATING OSH ACTIONS	. 23
Standardization in OSH, an essential tool for primary prevention	23
Coordination of the standardization experts in Occupational Injuries Branch	
Financing OSH standardization	
Assistance to standardization experts	
Regulatory certification to support European market surveillance	25
Actions concerning personal protective equipment (PPE)	
Work on machines	26

#### **EDITORIAL**



# Raphaël HAEFLINGER, Director of EUROGIP

I am pleased to present to you the 2024 Annual Report of EUROGIP, a leading player in the French "accidents at work and occupational diseases" insurance sector, dedicated to European and international matters.

Once again, this year, EUROGIP has pursued its mission with consistency and openness, providing a valuable European perspective on the major current OSH challenges.

The year 2024 was marked by a collective effort to enhance our output with new in-depth studies and the diversification of information dissemination channels. Our monitoring, reports and analyses have enabled us to gain a better understanding of developments in OSH in the European Union; knowledge that we have shared through a variety of publications, frequent interventions and responses to requests from actors from all sectors.

Our team has strengthened cooperation with organisations in neighbouring countries and European players (EUROSTAT, EU-OSHA, etc.), as well as within networks such as EUROSHNET and the European Forum for Occupational Injuries Branch. These exchanges have enabled best practice to be shared and common positions to be developed, to be taken collectively on the European and international stage.

By coordinating standardization activities and supporting work on personal protective equipment and machines in France and Europe, EUROGIP has maintained its position as a key player and continues to take concrete action to ensure more effective prevention in the field.

I would like to extend my warmest thanks to our teams for their daily commitment, and to all our partners for their confidence and involvement.

Enjoy your reading!

# **EUROGIP, WHO ARE WE?**



Created in 1991 as part of the Occupational Injuries Branch, EUROGIP is a public interest grouping (GIP) working to improve understanding of occupational risks in Europe.

It covers all issues relating to prevention and insurance practices for accidents at work and occupational diseases (AWs/ODs) at international level, particularly at European level.



Around 80% of its resources come from Occupational Injuries Branch (subsidy from the National Fund for the prevention of AWs/ODs) and around 20% from contracts with the French public authorities and the Community authorities.

EUROGIP is managed by a **joint Board** with equal representation of employers and trade union organizations.

**Observatory** 



#### **Unique in Europe**

International organisations, the European Commission, research institutes, national ministries, the French government, regional and local funds...

EUROGIP collaborates and lends a helping hand to public decision-makers and occupational safety and health stakeholders from all sectors.



Worldwide network

Conducted since 2017 by Raphaël Haeflinger, all EUROGIP's activities have occupational safety and health (OSH) as a common denominator and have a European significance. Its employees are divided into 5 departments:

Standarization & Certification Christèle Hubert-Putaux Pierre Belingard Saphia Fortassi Coordinates the activities of the standardization experts in Occupational Injuries Branch who participate in the preparation of French, European and international standards on occupational safety and health (OSH);

Leads a network of bodies responsible for certifying machines and personal protective equipment, so that these products can circulate freely on the European market.

Carries out comparative studies and surveys between different European countries on occupational diseases (musculoskeletal disorders, mental illnesses, cancers, etc.) and accidents at work (fatal falls, injuries, burns, etc...).

Studies & Surveys Christine Kieffer Annarita Piazza

#### **Monitoring & Information**

Isabelle Leleu Virginie Pluot Marie Pendaries Provides constant monitoring at European and international level; shares European information, works and news with the entire network; promotes transnational exchanges and collaboration through participation in events, conferences, meetings and Community projects.

Coordinates the international activities of the Occupational Injuries Branch; participates in projects of Community interest, in particular on behalf of the European Commission, such as calls for tender relating to AWs/ODs; provides services on behalf of organizations which have themselves responded to these calls for tender and participates in consortium in the field of AWs/ODs.

Project Marie-Amélie Buffet

#### Administration & Management

Isaure Poussielgue Mercedes Sellem-Delmar Ensures the smooth running of the structure in collaboration with its founding members (CNAM and INRS)

# **DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE**

#### Publications for a European vision of OSH



EUROGIP ensures information relays on occupational safety and health (OSH) at both national and European level. Whether through short "Focus" publications, explanatory videos or scientific studies, the aim remains the same: to share reliable, up-to-date and accessible knowledge.

#### Focus on European Union law applicable to OSH

Following a first edition published in 2022, EUROGIP has **updated its** <u>Focus on European Union</u> <u>law applicable to OSH</u>.

After a brief historical review, this new edition brings together the essential texts and takes stock of:

- the various legislative acts, their adoption procedure and the central role of directives in harmonising OSH;
- the Framework Directive (1989), which laid the foundations for the essential principles for guaranteeing the safety of workers, and the specific directives derived from it;
- other relevant Community texts concerning OSH, such as the new Machinery Regulation or the Recommendation on the list of occupational diseases.



#### EUROGIP Discussions: 1<sup>st</sup> episode on OSH within the European Union

In 2024, EUROGIP launched its **web series called "EUROGIP Discussions"**, available in French and English. In the form of prerecorded interviews, each episode gives the floor to one or more players with expertise in an OSH-related field.

For the 1st<sup>st</sup> episode, William Cockburn Salazar, the new Executive Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), answered the question: "Health and safety at work in Europe: where do we stand?" les discussions d'eurogip

After outlining the institutional context in which the Agency operates, he addressed the OSH 2023-2025 campaign in the digital age and identified the main trends in Europe. He then concluded by outlining the progress made in recent years and the challenges still to be met in the years ahead.

#### Ongoing study: Number of accidents at work in six European countries



A study on the **number of accidents at work in six European countries** (Germany, Denmark, Spain, France, Italy and Luxembourg) is currently underway and will be published in 2025.

The aim of this study is to identify the main trends in accidents at work (AWs) in these countries and, as far as possible, to compare their statistics according to common criteria. It is also a question of identifying the national specificities in terms of the evolution of the postpandemic accidents at work, of comparing the accidents in the sector as well as the most significant risk factors according to the countries.

In addition, this study provides an opportunity to address other issues, such as the under-reporting of accidents at work, how they are recognised, and the need for a common definition of accidents at work.

#### Specific themes addressed from a European perspective

Because some OSH challenges transcend national borders, EUROGIP is committed to addressing highstakes issues through a resolutely European approach. Whether it's European legislation or social issues, this work aims to decipher global developments and shed light on the practices implemented in Europe.



#### Focus on the new Directive on the employment of digital platforms



In the wake of the adoption of European Directive (EU) 2024/28 31 on improving working conditions in platform work, EUROGIP has published a <u>Focus</u> <u>dedicated to understanding this regulation</u>, considered to be a pioneer in the field of workers' rights on these platforms.

After a general presentation of the European Commission's objectives on the subject, this Focus looks at the history of the negotiations between the EU countries and the European institutions, clarifies the final content of the Directive and discusses the expected results. This publication focuses on the Directive's two main objectives:

- to establish a presumption of salaried status for platform workers throughout the EU;
- to establish a framework of rules, rights and obligations for algorithmic management.

#### EUROGIP Discussions: 2<sup>nd</sup> episode on working in extreme heat

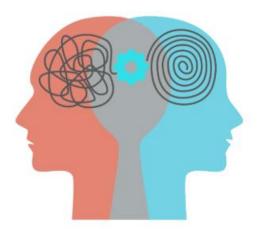
"Occupational safety and healthy in Europe's hot weather" is the **theme** of this year's <u>2<sup>nd</sup> episode</u> of the web series "EUROGIP Discussions". This episode features 4 speakers:

- **Christelle Akkaoui**, Deputy Director of Working Conditions within the National Directorate of Labour (DGT) in France
- Ignacio Doreste, Occupational Safety and Health Advisor at the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)
- Annarita Piazza, Research Officer at EUROGIP
- Elke Schneider, Senior Occupational Safety and Health Specialist at the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA (EU-OSHA).



For around twenty minutes, the speakers talk about the risks associated with heat in the workplace, explain the regulations in Europe and detail the concrete action taken at Community level to protect workers from these risks.

#### Ongoing study: Mapping the prevention of psychosocial risks



EUROGIP is mapping the prevention of **psychosocial risks** (PSRs) **at work**, to be published in 2025. The study will identify national efforts aimed at guaranteeing mental health and well-being in the professional environment in a number of European and non-European countries. It will focus in particular on the development of prevention at the level of the EU, international organizations and national legislation; will identify tools to help employers evaluate PSRs as well as financial assistance implemented to prevent them.

# An international monitoring to ensure daily information



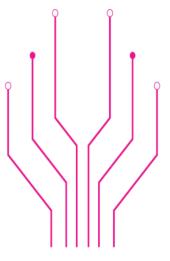
To inform its work and react quickly to the needs of its partners, EUROGIP ensures a daily monitoring. This approach makes it possible to follow developments, identify emerging topics and disseminate useful and enlightening information available to the entire network.

#### Monitoring and documentary assistance on insurance and prevention of AWs/ODs

EUROGIP keeps abreast of the latest developments at EU and national level, and even internationally, in the following areas:

- insurance organizations and insurance matters related to AWs/ODs,
- prevention bodies (publications, organization, events, etc.),
- ministerial authorities (particularly those linked to labour and health),
- legal matters (regulations, case law, etc.),
- Occupational safety and health (OSH) standardization,
- OSH in the specialist and general press,
- consultative bodies or commissions,
- good prevention practice,
- social partners.

These documentary resources are stored in a **database**, providing input for publications and work in progress. They are also used to respond to external requests from the Board, the CNAM's Occupational Risks Department (DRP), CARSAT, INRS, social partners, etc.



In 2024, particular attention was paid to the following themes: asbestos, mental health, serious and fatal accidents, crystalline silica, first aid, skin cancers caused by exposure to the sun's UV rays, digital prevention tools and artificial intelligence.

In addition, several **documentary research** requests concerned the medico-social sector (psychosocial risks and musculoskeletal disorders) and home help. Research has also been carried out on the prevention of discomfort, violence at work, lead exposure or occupational accidents in general.

#### Monitoring in the field of OSH standardization

In the field of standardization, monitoring enables the Occupational Injuries Branch to position itself as early as possible in the process. In 2024, it focused on the following points:



- New emerging standardization topics, such as off-site construction, artificial intelligence, ongoing projects (including public enquiries) and the revision of existing standards on fields already invested or still unexploited. For example, machinery for the plastics industry, dust collection, machine tool safety or asbestos detection in materials.
- New formats for normative documents, such as CEN Workshop Agreements (CWAs) or the AFNOR SPEC, developed rapidly without the participation of all the stakeholders concerned. This requires particularly careful monitoring and, if necessary, the coordinated involvement of the Occupational Injuries Branch.
- **Increasing involvement of standardization** in non-technical areas such as human resources management, management systems and the internationalisation of work.
- **Development of new standardization themes** in line with the European standardization strategy, particularly in the context of the Green Pact, climate change and digital sovereignty.



### Information dissemination channels

EUROGIP's X and LinkedIn accounts are regularly updated with news about occupational risks in Europe and institutional information about EUROGIP and its network (new publications, new episodes of its web series, seminars, etc.). The number of "subscribers" increased significantly throughout 2024, particularly for LinkedIn and the "EUROGIP infos" newsletter.

EUROGIP's <u>YouTube channel</u> features its institutional videos and some from the Occupational Injuries Branch, replays of the old "EUROGIP Debates" as well as episodes of its new web series "EUROGIP Discussions".

# SHARING EXPERTISE

#### Nationwide coverage

Frequently called upon by various public and private players to share its analyses and its European perspective, EUROGIP intervenes throughout the year on a wide range of subjects, thus consolidating its reference position regarding occupational risks in Europe.



#### **Examples of specific interventions**

Recognised for its expertise, **EUROGIP was frequently called upon during 2024** to participate in certain projects, to present the results of its research, to shed European light on a topical issue, to put Occupational Injuries Branch agents in touch with colleagues in other countries, and so on. Whether they come from within the network, from national players or from partners outside the Occupational Injuries Branch, these requests take various forms and concern a variety of subjects, as the following (non-exhaustive) examples show:



- Intervention at the **2023-2024 Agreement of Consulting Engineers** to provide an overview of standardization as an essential activity of the Occupational Injuries Branch and to highlight its link with the regulation;
- Presentation, at the CRAMIF Technical Committee meeting on 12 November 2024, of the main new features introduced in Machinery Regulation 2023/1230 and the positions put forward by the Ministries of Labour and Agriculture regarding the interpretation of the new regulations;
- Intervention at the Annual Conference of Inter-company Occupational Health and Prevention Services (SPSTI) in France which brought together more than 600 participants, invited by Présanse.

- Gathering of information and exchanges with the **Court of Auditors** as part of an investigation into the recognition of occupational diseases and the systems in force in the countries of Western Europe;
- Hearing by the Court of Auditors as part of its investigation into the recognition of occupational diseases, the report on which will include a European comparison of occupational disease recognition systems;
- Production of a bibliographic selection for the IGAS, tasked with drawing up an international overview of managerial practices in their various dimensions and their impact on social policies;



 Creation of an overview of specific regulatory provisions on lead prevention in several European countries, at the request of the National Directorate of Labour (DGT);



- Request from **ANSES** for information on the possibilities for recognition, the statistics for a new pathology/exposure pairing and the scientific work behind the inclusion of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), caused by exposure to vapours/fumes/dust, on the national lists;
- Request from the Metz Court of Appeal for figures on the development of occupational diseases caused by asbestos dust in certain European countries and the recent inclusion of asbestos-related occupational diseases on the lists of our European neighbours;
- Membership of the network of French Occupational Injuries Branch statisticians to which EUROGIP has contributed since 2020, in particular by providing a European perspective when required.



# Number of accidents at work: requests from the media, partners and public decision-makers

EUROGIP was asked by the Social Security Department (Direction de la Sécurité Sociale - DSS) to provide figures on the **number of AWs in other countries**, with a view to contributing to the <u>REPSS</u> (Social Security Policies Evaluation Report) dedicated to the Occupational Injuries Branch. This annual report sets out the main objectives of occupational health policies and identifies the successes, areas for improvement and difficulties encountered.



In the media, the publication by Eurostat of socalled "harmonized" statistics on accidents at work raised questions about France's position at the bottom of the ranking. Following this, several French media and partners contacted EUROGIP to get **its point of view on the issue**. EUROGIP has intervened on a number of occasions, notably at internal network meetings, at the National School for the Judiciary - École nationale de la magistrature (ENM) and following requests from certain media outlets such as TF1, Le Figaro, Le Monde, etc...

Finally, during the presentation of the 2023 annual report of the Occupational Injuries Branch, it was noted that there was an asymmetry between the upward trend in the insured population (resumption of activity after Covid) and the continuing decline in the number of accidents at work. Research was carried out by EUROGIP to find out whether this phenomenon was noticed in other European countries for which data is available, namely Germany, Spain, Italy and Luxembourg.

#### Participation in the works of the Commission L176-2

In 2024, EUROGIP took part in the works of the Commission L176-2 responsible for assessing the cost of **under-reporting of AWs/ODs in France**. A contribution on occupational diseases was drafted and presented to the Commission. This presentation was an opportunity to describe the major recognition models, compare the statistics for the years 2019-2022 for the major disease families and answer questions from the members of the Commission. A presentation of EUROGIP's works on updated estimates (2019-2021) of under-reporting of accidents at work in Europe was also given.



#### **European and international collaboration**



One of EUROGIP's roles is to ensure the European and international representation of Occupational Injuries Branch. As such, it regularly takes part in European and international initiatives, helping to enrich the debate on occupational risk prevention and insurance and to promote French works.

#### **Contracts with EU-OSHA**

In 2024, EUROGIP and its *consortium* partners, led by PANTEIA (NL), won two tenders from the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA):

The first one-year contract concerns **musculoskeletal disorders** (MSDs) in the health and social care sector: awarded in April 2024 and bringing together EUROGIP, Vhp (NL) and KU LEUVEN (BE), the aim of this project is to identify the main MSD risk factors in the sector and to select examples of good practice implemented in workplaces.





The second call for tenders covers **accidents at work** in the same sector: this 10-month contract was won by EUROGIP, Vhp (NL) and IKEI (ES). The aim of the project is to analyse accidents at work and identify their causes using existing data. In addition to accident prevention in general, the focus will be on analysing preventive measures specific to the most common accidents in the sector, particularly with a view to assessing their impact.

#### **Contribution to ISSA activities**

Since 2023, EUROGIP has been actively involved in the work of two Commissions of the International Social Security Association (ISSA):

The "Insurance against AWs/ODs"Commission, chaired by the DGUV(Germany) and vice-chaired by EUROGIP.

In 2024, EUROGIP presented its study "<u>Work in extreme heat and heatwave:</u> what international legislation and prevention actions to use?" at the Technical Seminar on "Challenges for safety and health at work in the context of climate change".



**The "Prevention" Commission,** for which EUROGIP provides the editorial secretariat for the Information Committee's e-Newsletter.

During 2024, EUROGIP put forward the idea of increasing the annual frequency of publication of the <u>*e-Newsletter*</u> in the interests of customer loyalty and clarity, a proposal adopted by the Information Committee.



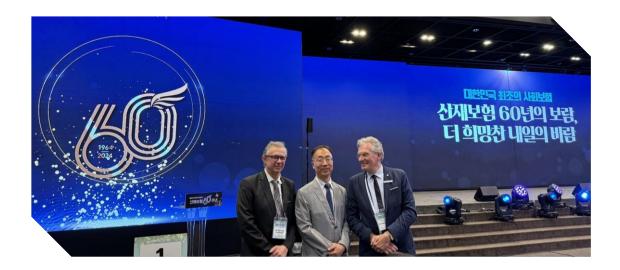
In addition, on behalf of the CNAM's Occupational Risks Directorate (DRP), EUROGIP presented three French actions in the competition for the "ISSA Good Practice Awards for Europe 2024":

- Chemical risks Pros: The solution for preventing occupational chemical risks;
- MSDs Pros: An enhanced approach to help companies reduce the impact of musculoskeletal disorders and low back pain;
- Building and Public Works Sector Programme: Working with clients right from the design stage of construction projects.

The first two actions received a certificate of merit with special mention from the jury, and the last one a certificate of merit.

#### Bilateral cooperation with South Korea (COMWEL)

As part of a cooperation agreement signed at the end of 2022 with COMWEL, the Korean workers' compensation and social protection service, EUROGIP took part in the **conference celebrating the Korean body's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary**.



On this occasion, it took part in a round table of experts to present the French system and exchange views with their Korean counterparts on issues relating to Occupational Injuries Branch. EUROGIP also took part in two panels: one on the issue of the ageing working population and the second on the major challenges facing Occupational Injuries Branch.

#### But also ...

In May 2024, EUROGIP took part in the **International Congress on Occupational Health (ICOH 2024)** to present the different models for covering occupational diseases in Europe, at the request of the Moroccan Insurance Federation.



#### Stakeholder of European networks



In constant contact with its European counterparts, EUROGIP is actively involved in a number of specialised networks and working groups. This presence enables it to promote French expertise and make its positions heard within European strategic bodies.

#### Participation in the European Forum on Occupational Injuries Branch

EUROGIP has been a long-standing participant in the <u>European Forum on Occupational Injuries</u> <u>Branch</u>, contributing in particular to the "**Communication**" and "**Occupational Diseases**" **working groups**.

As far as the "**Communication**" group is concerned, EUROGIP supports the Austrian correspondent in charge of leading the group, has been the French correspondent for the publication "*Forum News*" since its launch in 1993, is the administrator of the Forum's " $\underline{X}$ " account and contributes to the Forum's <u>website</u>.

In June 2024, EUROGIP proposed to the "**Communication**" working group to explore how the Forum's member organizations communicate on AWs/ODs. This new direction will provide a better understanding of the practices of our counterparts at CNAM and INRS.





The "Occupational Diseases" working group has focused its work on skin cancers caused by natural UV radiation. A European comparison of insurance practices in particular showed that this skin cancer/UV association was an area of concern shared by occupational injuries insurers in certain countries.

#### **Co-working with Eurostat**

In 2017, Eurostat set up the "*Task Force European Occupational Diseases Statistics*" (EODS), of which EUROGIP is a member, with the aim of defining a new method for producing for the harmonized European statistics on occupational diseases (ODs).

In 2024, during discussions with this Task Force, EUROGIP expressed reservations about the relevance of creating a mental health indicator, given the wide diversity of systems for recognising and recording work-related mental illnesses. With regard to accidents at work, EUROGIP has put forward its candidature for membership of the new Task Force set up by Eurostat to improve the methodology of European Accidents Statistics on at Work (SEAT/ESAW).



This project should be an opportunity for France to find a solution for coding workrelated deaths with no identified occupational cause.

In addition, EUROGIP has been regularly, and for several years, providing European insight into the "qualitative" aspect of the data to be transmitted to Eurostat, in collaboration with DARES.

#### Founding member of Euroshnet

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

The main activity in 2024 was the organization of the network's <u>8th European</u> <u>Conference</u> on 13 and 14 June 2024 in Krakow (Poland) on the theme "World in transition - Europe in adaptation - OSH under pressure".

The event, which brought together participants from 13 countries, provided an

opportunity to discuss developments in European policies and legislation in the face of the changes underway, notably through presentations on the EU's new areas of action and the impact of these on OSH, in particular standardization.

Among the major texts discussed: the Green Pact for Europe, the EU's Circular Economy Action Plan, the REACH Regulation, as well as the links between the new Machinery Regulation and the proposed Regulation on Artificial Intelligence or the law on cyber-resilience.

#### **Presence in strategic bodies**



EUROGIP has maintained its capability to **influence the normative consensus and the standardization strategy** by participating in the strategic bodies which decide on the main guidelines of OSH standardization programmes.

This applies in particular to AFNOR's Strategic Steering Committees on "Health, Prevention, Safety at Work and Inclusion" and "Sustainable Performance of Organizations", the European Strategic Forum for OSH Standardization and the CEN Advisory Forum for Machinery Standardization.

EUROGIP is also a member of AFNOR's "Group of coordinators in standardization" ("Cercle des coordinateurs normalisation"), which enables the **exchange of best practice** between representatives of major groups and public authorities. The aim of these participations is to put forward the **point of view of French prevention in standardization**.

The wealth of information shared within these French and European bodies also helps to keep the Occupational Injuries Branch experts up to date with the latest standards and regulations.



EUROGIP is also involved in the standardization aspects of the system that enables Occupational Injuries Branch bodies to **report problems with the design or operation of machinery**. Such reporting makes it possible, in particular, to identify shortcomings or deficiencies in the standards and to take them into account when revising or writing standards. This system helps to prevent serious and fatal accidents.

# **COORDINATING OSH ACTIONS**

#### Standardization in OSH, an essential tool for primary prevention



Standardisation in occupational safety and health involves developing common reference rules to ensure the protection of workers. EUROGIP is actively involved in the development of these standards and plays a central role by coordinating, supporting and guiding the experts involved.

#### Coordination of the standardization experts in Occupational Injuries Branch

In 2024, EUROGIP coordinated the activity of 78 standardization experts (at CARSAT, CRAMIF, INRS and EUROGIP), who took part in the standardization work of 48 French commissions, 23 European Technical Committees (CEN and CENELEC) and 20 International Technical Committees (ISO and IEC). They thereby contributed to the preparation of 229 draft standards: 34 French and 195 international standards (EN, ISO and EN ISO). 190 of these drafts were in the active phase of technical discussions and consensus-building, while the 39 others were in the final phase of formal voting or publication.

Depending on their availability and the subjects in question, the experts' involvement ranges **from active monitoring to participation in national, European and international meetings**; the latter remain at all levels the most effective means of putting forward the prevention point of view defended by the Occupational Injuries Branch.

EUROGIP coordinates the OSH standardization activity of the Occupational Injuries Branch in consultation with two working bodies made up of representatives of INRS, CNAM, the Funds and EUROGIP (Copil and Coordination).



In addition, EUROGIP alerts CNAM and the INRS about the creation of working groups or the need to replace experts so that the **Occupational Injuries Branch is always represented on subjects that are important to it.** EUROGIP also coordinates the preparation of the positions and responses of the Occupational Injuries Branch in the context of consultations within the standards system on new subjects, the creation of bodies or requests for standardization from the European Commission.

#### **Financing OSH standardization**



EUROGIP is the sole interlocutor of the standardization offices for all the participations of Occupational Injuries Branch in standardization. As such, it **financed the annual registration fees** of 37 members of 219 "Safety of machinery" standardization committees or groups managed by the Mechanical Engineering Union for Standardization - Union de normalisation de la mécanique (UNM) and those of 2 experts on 2 committees of the Automotive Standardisation Office - Bureau de normalisation de l'automobile (BNA).

EUROGIP also provided financial support for the work of the AFNOR and AFNOR-DELEC (electro-technologies) **standardization committees** in four major OSH standardization areas:

- machine safety,
- personal protective equipment,
- workplaces,
- physical environments,
- construction and cross-disciplinary issues.

#### Assistance to standardization experts

EUROGIP **provides assistance in various ways**: answering questions from experts on the exercise of their standardization mission or on questions of interpretation of the operating rules of standardization; informing experts and consulting them on new projects; informing them about the creation of Technical Committees and five-yearly reviews; (re)subscribing them to linguistic journals and sending them regular information and publications relating to standardization.



On 3 October 2024, EUROGIP organised a remote meeting attended by forty people, including standardization experts, heads of department, regional consulting engineers (ICR) and CARSAT standardization officers. This was an opportunity to discuss the new <u>Objectives and Management Agreement</u> (COG), standardization news from the Occupational Injuries Branch, machine safety, feedback from a standardization expert and the presentation of a new working platform for ISO standardization experts.

#### Regulatory certification to support European market surveillance



The certification makes it possible to certify that a product complies with the health and safety requirements defined by the regulations in force. EUROGIP actively contributes to French and European coordination in this area for two products that are particularly used in the world of work: personal protective equipment (PPE) and machinery.

#### Actions concerning personal protective equipment (PPE)

At national level, EUROGIP has **twice convened the General Commission**, which brings together the Ministries of Labour, Agriculture and Industry and the ten Notified Bodies (NBs). A NB is a body, often a certification and testing laboratory, that is notified by a Member State to carry out conformity assessments of products in accordance with EU harmonization legislation. These NBs cover all products and protective devices subject to third-party conformity assessment procedures.



These meetings are used to establish common positions to be applied by French organizations, to prepare French positions to be put forward at European level and to discuss decisions taken at meetings between Member States. EUROGIP also keeps an up-to-date **list of the certificates issued by the NBs** over the years in order to monitor certification activity. The number of certificates issued by French NBs and still valid remains high: over 30,000 for products in circulation in the EU.



In addition, EUROGIP provided **support for the urgent notification of a new French NB for diving and hyperbaric PPE** following the closure, in July, of the French NB INPP - National Institute of Professional Diving (Institut National de Plongée Professionnelle). It supported the DGT in implementing a procedure and monitoring the COMEX organisation, a candidate for notification, which has taken over the activities of the INPP.

At European level, EUROGIP took part in meetings of the Steering Committee and plenary sessions of the European Coordination of Notified Bodies for PPE. Discussions focused on the revision of the RfUs (Recommendations for Use Sheets - Reference sheets for interpreting the rules) and the drafting of new sheets in connection with PPE assessment procedures, the review of certificates and the introduction of production monitoring audits.

#### Work on machines

The French coordination **met in the General Committee twice in 2024**. EUROGIP keeps an upto-date **list of the certificates issued by the NBs** over the years in order to monitor developments in machine certification. The number of machine regulation certificates in circulation remains limited but stable.

At European level, 2024 was marked by problems with the validation of RfUs, whose publication was hampered by the new procedures for assessing documents issued by NBs. European Coordination has therefore taken steps to improve the process and modify its internal procedures.



In terms of the implications of the new Machinery Regulation on emerging technologies, the European Coordination of NBs has begun discussions on the assessment of Artificial Intelligence. A working group has met several times under the French presidency to compile and analyse initiatives in this area.



# Annual report

Highlights of our 2024 activity

**EUROGIP - Paris** 

Published in April 2025

Ref. Eurogip 200/E

ISBN 979-10-97358-86-0

Publication manager: Raphaël HAEFLINGER

Editor: Marie PENDARIES

Address: 51 avenue des Gobelins, 75013 Paris

eurogip.fr

eurogip@eurogip.fr

