



Joint Meeting
PEROSH Project leaders – Steering Committee
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**Expanding the Zero Accident Vision
to the European Context –
Interlinking Research and Networking (EZAV)
Progress report**

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Seoul Declaration



The Seoul Declaration on Safety and Health at Work was adopted on 29 June 2008 by some 50 high-level decision-makers from around the world as a major new blueprint for constructing a global culture of safety and health at work.

Promoting high levels of safety and health at work is the responsibility of society as a whole.

A national preventative safety and health culture is one in which the right to a safe and healthy working environment is respected at all levels, where governments, employers and workers actively participate in securing a safe and healthy working environment.

2nd Strategy Conference: Five Pillars for a culture of prevention in business and society - Strategies on Safety and Health at Work

3-4 February 2011, DGUV Academy Dresden

- (1) Reducing work accidents and occupational diseases (Vision Zero)
- (2) Raising awareness, developing competencies and capacity building
- (3) Cooperation between public health and OSH
- (4) Health and safety as an integral part of lifestyle
- (5) Integrating prevention into the social security system



COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Improving quality and productivity at work: Community strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work

- Aims to reduce incidence rate of occupational accidents by 25 % during the strategy period in the EU-27.
- The following actions are requested:
 - guarantee the proper implementation of EU legislation
 - support SMEs in the implementation of the legislation in force
 - adapt the legal framework to changes in the workplace and simplify it, particularly in view of SMEs
 - promote the development and implementation of national strategies
 - encourage changes in the behaviour of workers and encourage their employers to adopt health-focused approaches
 - finalise the methods for identifying and evaluating new potential risks
 - improve the tracking of progress, and
 - promote health and safety in international level

Promoting zero accident goal

- It is estimated that if all ILO Member States would use the best accident prevention strategies and practices that are already easily available, some 300,000 deaths and 200 million accidents could be prevented.
(Takala 2002)
- There are already a large number of examples how the zero accident concept has been applied.
- Zero accident thinking sets up both an intellectual and practical challenge to safety work.

Is there any way to zero accident goal?



- Zero accident vision provides an ethically sustainable basis for accident prevention.
- A safety management policy needs clear objectives.
- All accidents are preventable. If not right away, this should be feasible in longer run.
- Promoting this vision is an important weapon in the battle against common fatalism.
- Normally workplaces aim to decrease the number of accidents but in practice this is a difficult task.
- Even, if they have succeeded to reach a good safety level, it is hard to maintain it.





The Finnish Zero Accident Forum

In cooperation with:



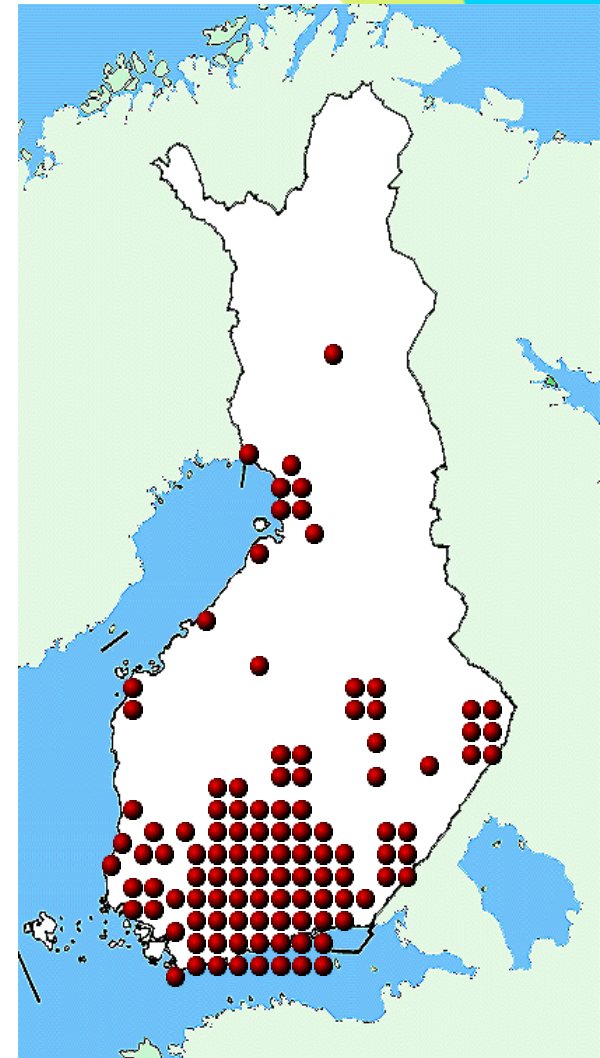
Principles

- **All accidents can be prevented.**
- **Accidents do not happen by accident.**
- **Learning is a key to success.**

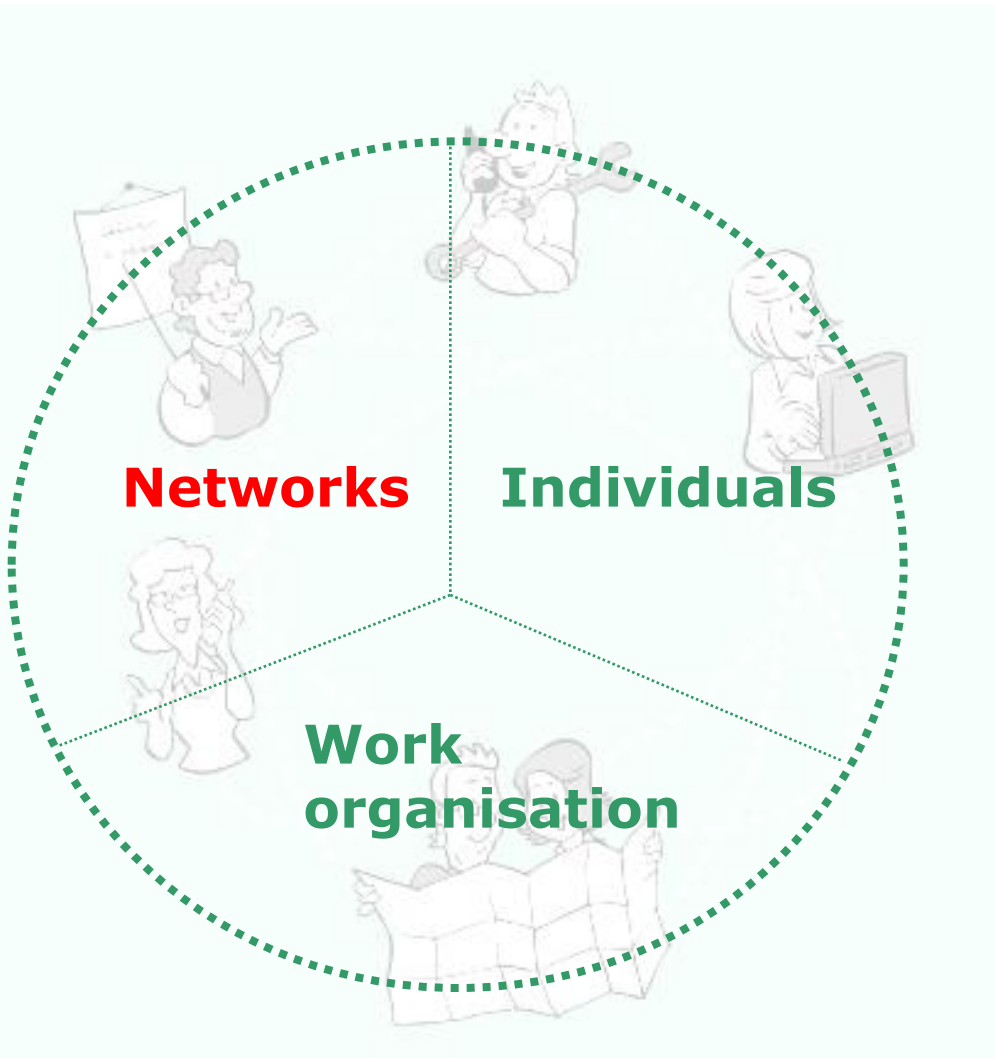
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The Zero Accident Forum in Finland since 2003

- Voluntary-based safety network coordinated by FIOH and supported by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
- Currently more than 280 member organisations across the country
- These organisations employ more than 300.000 people (equals to 10 % of the Finnish working population)
- The Forum covers 44 various economic branches – e.g. industry, construction, mining, logistics, financing, research, hospitals and municipalities



Learning at different levels



**The forum
provides a new
way of learning
through network
of member
organisations.**

Statement of the Confederation of Finnish Construction Industries (RT)



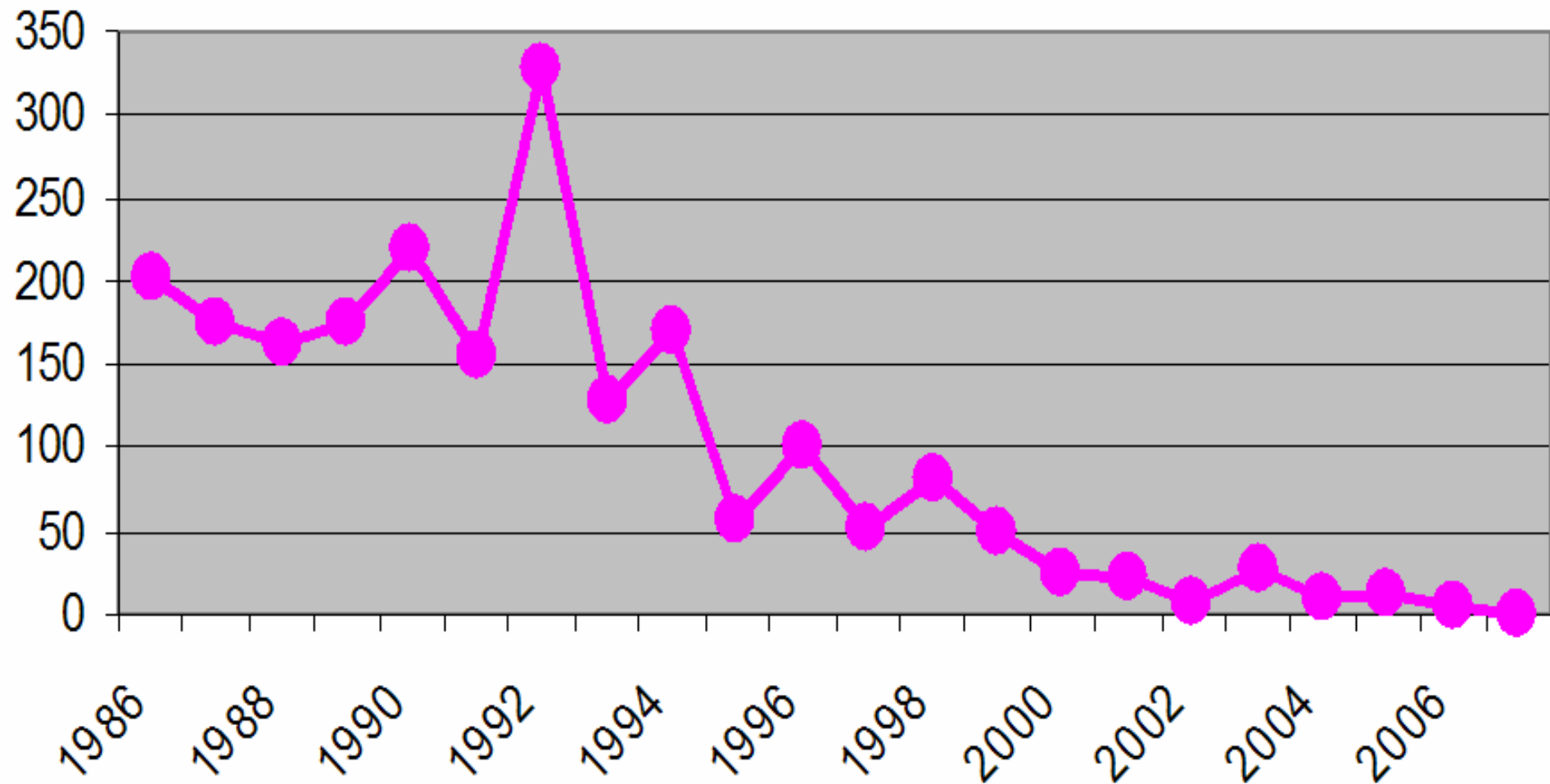
Zero work accident is the goal in Finnish construction sites by 2020

Four cornerstones for occupational safety:

- 1. Investing in occupational safety pays always.**
- 2. Competent client sets the safety goals and creates conditions for safety.**
- 3. "Safety starts from me" – the basic attitude for everyone in construction sites.**
- 4. Training provides the basis for safe working.**

Zero accident goal is reachable.

Accident rate in a Finnish factory producing construction materials



PEROSH Safety Culture Group: Expanding the Zero Accident Vision to the European Context - Interlinking Research and Networking (EZAV)

Goal:

- To promote zero accident vision at workplaces
- To exchange European experiences in the topic

Duration of the project:

- 2010-2012

Project Leaders:

- Markku Aaltonen, FIOH
- Gerard Zwetsloot, TNO

Partners:

- Johan Gort, TNO
- Rik Op De Beeck, Prevent
- Lieven Eeckelaert, Prevent
- Peter Kines, NRCWE
- Zofia Pawlowska, CIOP
- Nele Roskams, PEROSH



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- ✓ The zero accident vision (ZAV) is an important and challenging phenomenon, with a great potential for safety improvement.
- ✓ ZAV provides an ethically sustainable basis for accident prevention.
- ✓ ZAV is closely associated with business ethics and corporate social responsibility.
- ✓ The project has two types of goals: practical networking and research: e.g.
 - ✓ - expanding the experiences of the Finnish Zero Accident Forum
 - ✓ - to identify and analyse outstanding practices in accident prevention and safety culture

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Work packages

- ✓ WP 1: Zero Accident Vision (ZAV) - Overall project management (Coordination: FIOH and TNO)
- ✓ WP 2: Identification, analyses and dissemination of good or outstanding practices (case studies) (C: Prevent)
- ✓ WP 3: European Networking for ZAV (C: FIOH)
- ✓ WP 4: Research on ZAV and Safety Culture (C: NRCWE)
- ✓ WP 5: Research into the capability for organizational learning processes associated with the implementation of ZAV (learning from good practices and from incidents). (C: TNO)
- ✓ WP 6: Developing a European Research Agenda on ZAV (C: TNO)

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Project status:

- ✓ Meeting with the Commission (Mr. Antonio Cammarota, Luxembourg) was held in 06/2011 (presentation of Perosh network and ZAV-project). A project leaflet has been prepared for the meeting.
- ✓ An application is being prepared for receiving German funds (DGUV) for the project, including research-related Work Packages 4, 5 and 6.
- ✓ A "letter to the editor" to Safety Science is under preparation.

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Project status:

- ✓ Dr. M. Aaltonen was an invited keynote speaker about Zero accident –programmes in St. Petersburg 24.10.2011. The OSH seminar was organised by the St.-Petersburg Chapter of American Chamber of Commerce in Russia and the local ILO office. There were around 50 delegates in the audience presenting Russian companies, authorities, insurance and research institutions.
- ✓ Prof. Gerard Zwetsloot included ZAV topic in his lecture on 'CSR as a driver for innovation in OSH' at the EU Presidency conference in Warsaw in 11/2011.
- ✓ In the Netherlands, TNO will officially start with a zero accidents network in 2012. There is a group of around 15 companies that have already said that they are interested to join in.

Triggers to zero accident policy:

What would be factors to radical change in occupational safety policy in a company?

- Awakening to safety situation due to poor accident statistics (costs, ethical consequences, bad reputation)
- Competition of recruiting competent personnel to a company
- Change of owner of a company (new safety policy)
- Requirements from customers or from supply chain partners
- Participating in safety competitions
- CSR and changes in markets due to ethical codes
- New safety policies within the economic branch
- Actions of competitors
- Changes in company safety policy
- New requirements in safety, quality or productivity management systems (new goal settings)



Conclusions

- Improvement of safety culture provides a basis for OSH.
- Occupational safety and accident prevention have still a high societal relevance.
- Zero accident goal provides an ethically sustainable basis for accident prevention.
- Research and networking are needed for promotion of zero accident goal.