

## DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF A PRACTICAL MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR INJURY PREVENTION AT WORKPLACES (PEROSH – MAT)

In January 2018, a new Joint PEROSH Research Project “MAT” started. The project focuses on the structured monitoring of safety conditions at workplaces and a simple identification of gaps in prevention activities. The subsequent adjustment of prevention measures should lead to a reduction of accidents at work.

As a first step, the German Social Accident Insurance Institution for the Woodworking and Metalworking Industries has developed a tool that reliably and comprehensively evaluates the inherent prevention culture of workplaces.

MAT is based on the so-called TOP approach in preventing occupational accidents and injuries, namely: Technical measures (T), Organisational measures (O) and Personal measures (P). Based on these principles, four central questions were developed for each of the TOP domains. The strengths and weaknesses of the company's safety and health arrangements can thus be determined in relation to these three aspects.

### Three important fields of action for occupational safety

Technology

Organization

Personnel



### /// OBJECTIVES

The project will:

- exchange knowledge on other monitoring tools
- improve and adapt MAT internationally
- test MAT in several European countries (e.g. Poland and Austria)
- validate MAT as a reliable tool for the prevention of occupational accidents, injuries and diseases.

### /// TARGET GROUPS

A validated MAT is a useful tool for employers, OSH experts and occupational accident insurers to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the company's safety and health precautions and take appropriate measures.

### /// RESULTS

In the German wood- and metalworking industry, the reliability of MAT was examined by a factor analysis. The MAT workplace ratings showed a strong correlation with corresponding numbers of work place injuries.

The PEROSH joint project aims to extend the MAT tool to include further prevention approaches and a reliability assessment in other European countries.

Besides, other industrial sectors of PEROSH member countries will be considered to include in the testing.

### /// RELEVANCE

MAT is designed to be an easy-to-use and comprehensive tool for assessing specific working conditions at a particular workplace, providing guidance on appropriate prevention measures for the company, the industry and the country.

Consequently, this will lead to:

- a reduction in the absolute number of occupational accidents and diseases
- a reduction in the working days lost due to work-related accidents and diseases
- a hazard-based examination of work processes through the use of a structured and valid tool

### /// RESEARCH TEAM

This PEROSH project is being implemented by the following institutes:  
Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of the German Social Accident Insurance (IFA, Germany), Austrian Social Insurance for Occupational Risks (AUVA, Austria) and Central Institute for Labour Protection - National Research Institute (CIOP-PIB, Poland).



#### Contact

Frank Bochmann, IFA. [frank.bochmann@dguv.de](mailto:frank.bochmann@dguv.de)

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