

## **Coordinator(s) for Safety and Health Matters at Temporary or Mobile Constructions Sites -Safety and Health Construction Coordinators**

**Dr. Reinhard Obermaier ISHCCO President**

ISHCCO is the European umbrella association of the national associations of Safety and Health Construction Coordinators.

Working places at temporary or mobile constructions sites mark up with special conditions:

They are temporarily limited, many companies act in a co-working situation at one place and at the same one time or following one after each other, the variety of safety standards of the company's interfere and can block the effectiveness of safety measures and multilingual and multicultural background hinders communication and understanding.

The development of the globalisation causes enforced the internationalising the activities in tendering and commissioning. Supply chains extended within this situation.

This situation generates working places with high rates of serious incidents, serious and even fatal occupational accidents as well serious and even fatal occupational diseases by constant exposure from mechanical stress, damage or hazardous substances.

Hence work at construction sites is still considered one of the most dangerous work sectors of economy.

On the basis of the Main Directive (89/391) and in its specification, the European Commission published CD 92/57 EEC in 1992 – “on the implementation of minimum safety and health requirements at temporary or mobile constructions sites”. The national implementation spread over approximately a decade and still varies in education and details. Several reports deal with the variations, also by ISHCCO.

In general the principles of prevention are to be applied to the planning of a construction project (the safety and health plan), to execution i.e. the work and to the subsequent works (the file). The tasks of the coordinator during the execution phase includes to enable collaboration and contribute structure and processes to technical and / or organizational aspects and on circumstances of the time and implement relevant provisions and arrangements to check correct (safe) working procedures. The Coordinator supports the planners, the management of the site and of the involved companies.

Of course, as demanded by the principle of prevention, technical progress, changes in international regulations or specifications or knowledge need to be considered in Safety and Health Construction Coordination.

ISHCCO predicts that coordination has to take into account actualities like VISION ZEROO and Sustainable Development as well.

Both movements result in important new impetus on occupational safety and health. VISION ZEROO provides an approved management system for companies. The United Nations presented the 17 Goals. In European the Commission and the Nations refer to the 17 UN Goals of sustainability. Some of the gaols refer to characteristics of material and usage properties of a construction project and some are directly related to the work at the site. The latter goals as well as VISION ZEROO plans of companies can be assumed as relevant for an up-to-date safety and health construction coordination.

ISHCCO also predicts digitalisation has to be taken into account. Although up to now reliable and comprehensive digital tools are not available at last digital planning resources like CAD-plans and project-management tools are quite frequently used. And ISHCCO proposes that further developments should contain the experience of the specialists – the Safety and Health Construction Coordinators.

Therefor ISHCCO advocates for the extension of competences needed for VISIO ZEROO; Sustainability and digitalisation applied to Safety and Health Construction Coordination.