

## AUSTRIA. NON-INSPECTION ACTIVITIES

Title of the non-inspection activity: **Advisory Campaign on safety knives**

Duration of the non-inspection activity: **2020**

Aim of the non-inspection activity: **reduce occupational accidents with boxcutters**

Scope of the non-inspection activity (description): **During consultations, labour inspectors demonstrated in businesses and on construction sites that safety knives are just as suitable for many applications as the knives typically used. This practical approach aimed to encourage a change in long-standing practices within the businesses.**

Sector covered by the non-inspection activity: **The main focus of these consultations was on companies in the manufacturing sector (about 12% of accidents), trade (about 20% of accidents), construction (6% of accidents), and construction-related trades (about 13% of accidents). In these economic sectors, approximately 50% of accidents involving knives and cutters occur.**

The number of establishments covered by the non-inspection activity: **2.317**

The number of labour inspectors involved in implementing the non-inspection activity: **212**

The number of specialised staff (but not labour inspectors) involved in implementing the non-inspection activity: **1**

The number of persons involved in supervising the implementation of the non-inspection activity (including the preparation of communication and promotional materials and summing up its results): **1**

Background of the non-inspection activity: **Every year, between 5,000 and 5,400 workplace accidents involving hand knives occur. A significant number of these accidents happen while opening packages. Observations of accident occurrences by labour inspectors have shown that opening packages, in particular, poses a significant accident risk.**

Budget of the non-inspection activity: -

Short summary of the outcome of the non-inspection activity: **A total of 2.317 consultations were conducted in businesses and on construction sites. The focus by industry was on trade (795), manufacturing businesses (635), and construction sites, including main and secondary construction trades (458).**

**Quotes from reports by labour inspectors (all quotes -> see [End report](#))**

**"The businesses received the information with interest and agreed to replace the knives. The labour inspection's leaflet on different knives for various applications was well received."**

**"Notably, in a medium-sized company, similar knives had already been tested and found impractical. However, with the knives we demonstrated, the employer was convinced. Very gratifying!"**

No.	question	yes/no	comment
<b>Non-inspection activity</b>			
<b>A. Stakeholders cooperating with the labour inspectorate in non-inspection activity</b>			
<b>B. Sources of project financing in the labour inspectorate's activity</b>			
<b>C. Preparation of the project (of non-inspection activity)</b>			
5.	What sources were used to specify the described non-inspection activity?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> inspectorate's own database of workplace accidents <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> external database of workplace accidents <b>Data on occupational accidents from the Austrian Workers' Compensation Board</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> others (please specify) <b>The Austrian Workers' Compensation Board (AUVA) made a similar campaign on hand safety in general prior to this campaign.</b> <b>This advisory campaign was a specification building on the AUVA campaign.</b>
6.	How was the project (of non-inspection activity) prepared?		
b)	By a group/team established ad hoc to implement the project		<b>By the responsible head of unit at the Central-Labour Inspectorate</b>
7.	Was the project (of non-inspection activity) related to an inspection task?		What was the title of the inspection task? <b>If applicable, the advisory campaign was undertaken also in inspection settings.</b>
9.	What components were included in the plan of actions (of non-inspection activity)?		<b>Consultation at work and construction sites, information material distributed at website and social media channels</b>
10.	How was the target group of the non-inspection activity specified?		
a)	In the plan of the non-inspection activity.		<b>x</b>
11.	What criteria were used while selecting the target group?		<b>Data on accidents</b>
12.	Were IT tools used to identify the priority area in the described non-inspection project?		Data analyzed to determine the priority area <b>Data on accidents</b>
<b>D. Types of tasks undertaken during implementation of the non-inspection activity</b>			

14.	What activities were carried out so as to implement the project of the non-inspection activity?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> visits to enterprises <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> distribution of publications, audio-visual materials; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> provision of advice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> information on the Inspectorate's own websites <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> information in the social media (FB, Instagram, X)
<b>E. Methods of disseminating information about the project of the non-inspection activity</b>			
17.	Did you develop any plan to communicate the information about the project?		-
18.	Did you assess the effectiveness of communication of the project contents to stakeholders in the sector covered by the non-inspection activity or to the general public?		-