

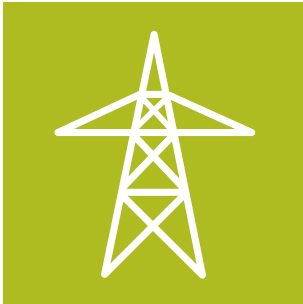


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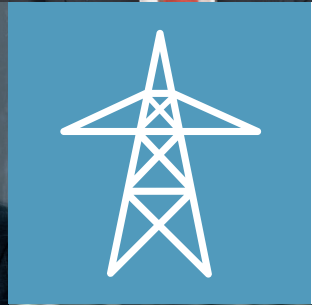
INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY ASSOCIATION

International Section for Electricity

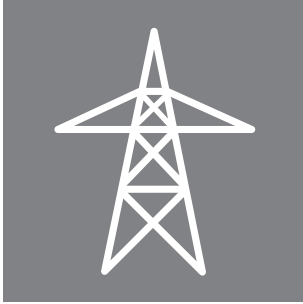
1970 – 2020



50 Years of International Commitment



to Occupational Safety and Health



Greetings



Professor Dr Joachim Breuer
ISSA President

An international community of prevention actors that yield results and provide practical solutions for addressing the global challenges in occupational safety and health (OSH) is a rare gem. The International Social Security Association (ISSA) maintains such a unique network that has gradually grown to 14 Sections, which cover various sectors of economic activities, ranging from agriculture to construction and from education to trade. The network operates under the umbrella of the Special Commission on Prevention that provides good practice, research, expert advice and a global platform for exchange.

The fact that we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the International Section of the ISSA for Electricity, Gas and Water illustrates just how engaged and committed the team behind the

Section really is. I have the utmost respect for all members of the Section, past and present, who have generously offered their work efforts, their free time and, most importantly, their hearts to the good cause of prevention.

The Section has grown from a dedicated few to a global network of safety and health professionals. It has organized numerous symposia all over the world and has supported many social security organizations by providing technical expertise and solutions to improve prevention services in those branches facing an extremely high degree of risks for safety and health. Under the leadership of late

Olaf Petermann, the Section was an important supporter of the ISSA's most prestigious moments: The Launch of "Vision Zero" at the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work in Singapore in 2017. Since that time, Vision Zero has become an unprecedented success for the International Social Security Association and its Sections, who have been the driving force behind many Vision Zero launches and events on every continent and in over 50 countries. However, the work of the Section does not stop there. The Section has also marked a new beginning for a global community

outreach by organizing its International Media Festival for Prevention, held every three years during the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work.

Yet just when the Section was about to celebrate its 50th year of work, the world was challenged by the Corona pandemic. Not only did the Section's anniversary event have to be postponed, but the World Congress and the Media Festival also had to be shifted. In these difficult times, the Section proved its strength once again by actively supporting the set-up of new virtual World Congress sessions on topics surrounding the global work environment in times of COVID-19.

I would like to congratulate and thank the Section and its members for 50 years of successful work in prevention as established and recognized experts of the international occupational safety and health community, and wish them all the best for the years to come.



Marcelo Abi-Ramia Caetano
ISSA Secretary General

Half a century ago, the International Section for Electricity, Gas and Water was created as one of the first Prevention Sections of the ISSA. Since then, the Section has become a solid pillar within the ISSA and a valuable promoter of good OSH practices in the electricity, gas and water supply industries, thus contributing to the ISSA's overall mandate to promote and develop social security around the world.

The Risk Assessment Guides published by the Section have found broad acceptance throughout the industry

and the series has been recognized as a global reference for addressing OSH risks, especially in companies that face the challenge of operating plants in several countries with the need for harmonizing their OSH standards and production methods.

The Section has also supported the development of the ISSA Guidelines on occupational risks, on workplace health promotion and on return to work. These Guidelines are regularly used by ISSA members and recognized as reference documents for project implementation by international organizations, such as the World Health Organization and the World Bank. Section experts have

promoted these Guidelines in seminars, training workshops, symposia and at conferences.

Nonetheless, the work of the Electricity Section does not stop here: As part of the Special Commission on Prevention, the Section has promoted a global prevention culture, has launched Vision Zero, has developed concepts to turn Vision Zero into a long-term strategy in line with International Standards and UN Sustainable Development

Goals, and has produced a wealth of materials to prevent the spread of Corona at the workplace. Last but not least, it has generously provided enormous added-value to the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work by organizing the International Media Festival. The Congress has focused on Corona, being held in a virtual format in October 2020.

The work of the Section has always been driven by a passion for improving working conditions while eliminating occupational hazards and risks. These efforts have yielded significant results, demonstrated most recently by the mobilisation of over 12,000 supporters for Vision Zero in less than three years. I am convinced that the Vision Zero campaign developed by the ISSA would not have been possible without the support of the International Section of the ISSA for Electricity, Gas and Water. 50 years of successful work not only provides a moment to look back in history and assess what has been done, it also presents a unique opportunity to continue the journey by taking prevention to the next level; by convincing governments, social security institutions and enterprises to invest in prevention, to commit to the 7 Golden Rules of Vision Zero and to promote safety, health and wellbeing.

Happy birthday! ... and may there be many more years to celebrate!

“ The fact that we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the International Section of the ISSA for Electricity, Gas and Water illustrates just how engaged and committed the team behind the Section really is. ”



“ The work of the Section has always been driven by a passion for improving working conditions while eliminating occupational hazards and risks. These efforts have yielded significant results, demonstrated most recently by the mobilisation of over 12,000 supporters for Vision Zero in less than three years. ”



The ISSA

Name: International Social Security Association (ISSA)

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Status: Global non-profit-organization for social security

Origins: Founded in 1927 under the guidance of the International Labour Organization (ILO)

Members: Over 320 national institutions from more than 160 countries

Objective: The ISSA promotes excellence in social security by developing guiding principles based on internationally recognized professional standards, by unifying expert knowledge and by providing services and support for its worldwide membership base so they can develop dynamic social security systems while pursuing relevant policies.

Officials:

Prof. Dr Joachim Breuer (President)

Milka Mungunda (Vice-President)

Nikolay Koslov (Treasurer)

Marcelo Abi-Ramia Caetano (Secretary General)

The ISSA's 13 Technical Commissions play a vital role in the overall association. They form the backbone for knowledge development and the technical work carried out within the ISSA. One of these Technical Commissions is the Special Commission on Prevention.

Specific information regarding the ISSA can be found at www.issa.int

The Special Commission on Prevention

The Special Commission on Prevention is comprised of 14 international Sections structured according to branch/topics and dedicated to prevention.

One of these 14 Sections is the Section for Electricity, Gas and Water.

The international Sections are

integrated into the ISSA's common work plans and,

moreover, pursue their individual branch- and topic-related activities.

Their joint activities are coordinated by the ISSA's Special Commission on Prevention.

The Chairperson for this Commission is Martina Hesse-Spötter, President of the ISSA Section for Electricity, Gas and Water.

Specific information regarding the Special Commission on Prevention can be found at www.issa.int/tc-prev

14 ISSA Prevention Sections



Five Questions about the International Section of the ISSA for Electricity, Gas and Water

1. What is the Mission?

The protection of workers against electrical accidents and occupational diseases due to electricity and ionizing radiation

2. What are the principal objectives?

- Reduction of the number of electrical accidents
- Improvement of electrical safety standards at work
- Achievement of good safety and health practices in the electricity, gas and water supply industries and in electrical installation workshops

At the international level, the Section is engaged in activities designed to promote safety in the generation and distribution of electricity, gas and long-distance heating, as well as promoting occupational safety in public water utilities and in the industrial use of electricity and gas.

The goal of the Electricity Section: "The worldwide promotion of occupational safety and the protection of health in the electrical generation and distribution industries, as well as in the use of electricity and gas within the commercial sector."

3. What means of action does the Section use to achieve its objectives?

It creates a platform for close cooperation between its members from all over the world, while encouraging the international exchange of information and experience among its members, organizations and persons interested in the Section's activities, particularly through:

- organizing international meetings and congresses
- undertaking surveys and studies in special working groups
- collecting and disseminating information on safety in the energy sector, especially for electrical safety, including dissemination of the latest findings relevant to safety enhancement

4. How does the Section for Electricity, Gas and Water respond to new developments and needs?

Besides the traditional technical problems, both the



The Section Board conducts the Section's regular business and develops its programme of activities. From left to right: Dr Klaus Renz, Peter McCormick, Martina Hesse-Spötter, Dr Antonio de Cos Blanco and Dr Jens Jühling.

organizational and psychological aspects of occupational safety and health are being increasingly dealt with under the Section's scope. These include:

- occupational safety and health management
- management responsibilities
- management techniques
- basic and advanced training
- influencing human behaviour
- the role of the human factor in accident prevention, etc.

Another important Section task is to help developing countries improve their electrical safety standards by providing advice on efficient prevention strategies and developing training programmes, tailored to the needs of the countries concerned.

5. Who are the Protagonists?

The Members – organized in the General Assembly, as well as the Board elected by the General Assembly. All Section member organizations are listed at the end of this publication.

Chairperson:

Martina Hesse-Spötter, BG ETEM, Cologne, Germany

Vice-Chairpersons:

Peter McCormick, EA Technology, London, UK
Dr Antonio de Cos Blanco, Fraternidad Muprespa, Madrid, Spain

Secretary General:

Dr Jens Jühling, BG ETEM, Cologne, Germany

Member of the Board until November 2020:

Dr Klaus Renz, BG ETEM, Cologne, Germany

International Forum – Modern OSH Organisation

The Modern OSH Organisation in Europe is an event that takes place every two years, being hosted alternately in Germany or Luxembourg – the latest was held in Trier, Germany, in June 2019.



International Forum – Modern OSH Organisation 2019 in Trier



I am delighted to participate in the fifth edition of the International Forum. This bilateral exchange will enable Luxembourg and German companies to strengthen a culture of prevention according to the principles of VISION ZERO.

Claude Seywert, President of the Luxembourg Accident Insurance Association (AAA)



The organizers are the German Social Accident Insurance Institution for the energy, textile, electrical and media products sectors (BG ETEM), the Luxembourg Accident Insurance Association (AAA) and



Panel discussion at the International Forum

the ISSA Section for Electricity, Gas and Water. The focus of the event is on a bilateral exchange between Luxembourg and Germany on current topics in the field of occupational safety and health management systems (OSH-MS), OSH organization and other related prevention topics - with a view at all times towards Vision Zero.



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International Symposium on Electrical Safety (SISE) in Asunción, Paraguay in 2012

International Symposium on Electrical Safety (SISE)

The International Symposium on Electrical Safety (SISE in Spanish) is one example for the international events established around the world by the Section. Since 2001, SISE has gathered those responsible for risk prevention and other professionals involved in occupational health, safety and environmental prevention in the electricity sector. The purpose is to share the latest innovations in worldwide electrical safety. It is co-organized by several institutions from the energy sector in Latin America together with the ISSA Section for Electricity, Gas and Water. Please visit the event's website for further information www.sise.online

Electricity and Safety in the 21st Century

The new technologies, applications and standards related to electricity pose certain challenges to the concept of prevention. The purpose of the international symposium regularly organized by the BG ETEM (German Social Accident Insurance Institution for the energy, textile, electrical and media products sectors), the DKE (German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE) and the ISSA Electricity Section, is to expose risks and exchange findings from research and operational practice in an international arena.

Vision Zero – a Global Movement

The ISSA Section for Electricity, Gas and Water has initiated various projects in order to implement Vision Zero throughout the energy industry.

Vision Zero is based on the conviction that all accidents, diseases and damage can be avoided. The concept that not one life should be lost as the result of a work-related accident or an occupation-related disease enjoys the highest priority. At the operational level, it is expedient for management to consistently orient itself on safety and health. This is not only imperative for the physical and psychological integrity at the workplace, but also for the success of the company, its quality and its productivity resulting from a satisfactory prevention culture.



Companies and organizations around the world are being motivated by the ISSA's Vision Zero campaign. The ISSA Electricity Section published a Guideline in 2015 in support of middle management within the energy sector in the spirit of Vision Zero.

Publications

The Section regularly publishes the results of its work in the form of guidelines and brochures that are made available at no cost. These are considered standard references in companies and organizations around the world for the safe use of electricity, gas and water.

Guideline for Safe Contract Management

One current publication is the "Guidance on the Safe Management of Contracts: A Contract Lifecycle Approach" prepared by an international working group: A growing number of contracts are

"The response to the Guideline was so positive that we prepared a new leadership seminar together with the Sections for the Mining Industry and for Education and Training", explains Dr Jens Jühling. "The seminar is conducted as part of the Vision



We can neither see, smell nor taste the danger of electricity, but we can feel it - and when we do, it's already too late. Our vision is: No person should ever be subject to injury or loss of life as the result of an electrical accident.

Dr Jens Jühling



Zero campaign." The international exchange is an important driving force – in 2019 at the Vision Zero Summit in Helsinki, Finland, among others, as well as at the ISSA Conference: Vision Zero – Innovation in Prevention in Düsseldorf, Germany; in 2020 at the Vision Zero in the Digital Age convention in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and at the virtual special session addressing COVID-19 and occupational safety and health, which was organized by the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work; as well as in 2021 at the XXII World Congress on Safety and Health at Work in Toronto, Canada. Further information can be found at www.visionzero.global

issued to external companies as companies increasingly place focus on their core businesses. These guidelines, prepared by an international working group within the ISSA Section for Electricity, Gas and Water, enable all those involved to establish clear rules towards the fulfilment of their responsibility for ensuring safety and health, as well as quality and productivity. The brochure has been issued in four languages and, as with all publications issued by the ISSA Section for Electricity, Gas and Water, is available free of charge at www.issa.int/prevention-electricity/resources

Interview

January 2020

President **Martina Hesse-Spötter** and Secretary General **Dr Jens Jühling** discussing the role of the ISSA Section for Electricity, Gas and Water



How did you begin your work with the Section?

Hesse-Spötter: I initially came into contact with the work of this ISSA Section 20 years ago as an advisor to the executive board. I was fascinated by the potential for thinking outside the box and for devoting myself to safety and health at the workplace at an international level, together with colleagues from across the globe. Over the past decades, we have been able to share tremendous knowledge with others and have seen ourselves through the eyes of our international partners.

Jühling: I also appreciate this to a great degree! My collaboration began over 25 years ago when I was commissioned by the ISSA Section for Electricity to give technical presentations on the subject of “electrical safety” at an international conference in South America. The close thematic link to the electrotechnical standardization process I had been pursuing internationally on behalf of the German Social Accident Insurance Institution since the 1990s soon became apparent. The personal contacts and networks proved to be quite useful in both directions. This established a good foundation for building the Section’s widely

distributed, cross-industry network of experts. Electrical safety specialists can be found in every sector because electricity is needed in every industry around the world.

How do you see the role of the BG ETEM?

Jühling: Let me share a bit of history. In the years following the Second World War, we experienced over 50 fatal work-related accidents every year associated with electricity in Germany’s electrical industry. It was the German Social Accident Insurance Institution for the precision engineering and electrical industry (BG FE at that time) that urged the founding of an institute at the national level for researching electrical-related accidents for the purpose of developing effective prevention measures, such as the Five Safety Rules for electricians. The initiative for establishing the Section for Electricity came from the BG FE because nothing comparable could be found at the international level. The Section further evolved into a multidisciplinary institution, which incorporated the issues of gas, district heat and water supply. The Section today, with its technical expertise such

as the BG ETEM at the national level, represents an internationally recognized organization addressing the subject of occupational safety and health within the energy sector.

This I’ve learned through my many encounters within the framework of ISSA functions: Occupational safety and health must be a matter of the heart, as this alone will convince the hesitant to follow. And: The international standardization process has convinced me that the challenges we face related to safety and, specifically, occupational safety and health, are not bound by national borders. Particularly within the ISSA, I am inspired by the commitment found in our like-minded collaborators from so many countries.

So this means the Section and the international work of prevention depend greatly on the personal engagement of the people involved?

Hesse-Spötter: It certainly does. I recall the large convention for occupational safety and health in Africa that I attended in 2019. I was very excited to see the commitment demonstrated by the African countries! As a lawyer and Director of the District Administration for Rehabilitation and Compensation of the BG ETEM, I was particularly pleased to see that the theme “Return to Work”, meaning the vocational reintegration following an occupational disease or accident, was also on the agenda. In Germany, we have had the best experience by adopting the approach that the responsibility for prevention of, re-

habilitation from and compensation for occupational diseases or accidents should lie in the same hands. It is good that the special features of the German accident insurance system serve as an example for other countries – in line with our motto: Everything from a single source. This is not a one way street, however: Many questions arise when we share our experiences with colleagues from other countries. This can also prove very instructive for us because the colleagues from those countries view our system and our initiatives with critical perspective from outside. This makes our work so fascinating.

Jühling: Political support is essential in order to advance the cause of international occupational safety and health. The “G7” resolution was a very important step towards promoting good working conditions around the world and establishing a



Political support is essential in order to advance the cause of international occupational safety and health.



Vision Zero fund. Germany, with its “G7” presidency in 2015, made occupational safety and health the focus for labour and social policy. In so doing, this theme was elevated to become a common strategic objective for the global economy. As a result of this initiative, numerous concrete projects have evolved at the international level over the past years.

Section for Electricity, Gas and Water - Focal Points

1970: Founding

The growing importance of electricity has prompted the ISSA to place a great priority on the establishment of an “Electricity Section” in order to promote occupational safety measures within this sector. The Section was founded on 26 June 1970 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The protection from risks in the usage and distribution of gas, heat and water became an additional field of activity in 1994, which prompted a name change to the “ISSA Section for Electricity, Gas and Water”.

Five Golden Safety Rules

The Five Golden Safety Rules form the basis for all electro-technical efforts toward preventing electrical accidents:

1. Disconnect completely
2. Secure against reconnection
3. Verify that the installation is de-energized
4. Carry out grounding and short-circuiting
5. Provide protection against adjacent live parts with covers or barriers

Primary Section Issues / Tasks

The Section develops close cooperation between its members from all over the world. It encourages the international exchange of information and experience among experts by organizing symposia, workshops, trainings and working groups on occupational safety and health in the energy sector. The Section publishes the results of its work in the form of guidelines and brochures, which are available online.

Technical Colloquia on Various Topics

The Section’s first Colloquium took place in Vienna (Austria) in 1971, where over 300 participants focused intently on the issue of accidents related to electric currents. Further Colloquia have been held in Cologne (Germany), Marbella (Spain), Rome (Italy), Paris (France), London (UK), Lucerne (Switzerland), Madrid (Spain), Dublin (Ireland) and Prague (Czech Republic).



What role does Vision Zero play?

Jühling: Fortunately, more and more people have come to the conclusion that fatal and severe work-related accidents and occupational diseases can be avoided. The worldwide implementation of the Vision Zero initiative provides us with an ideal platform for sharing convincing arguments with even more people in the wake of globalization.

Hesse-Spötter: Absolutely. The Vision Zero strategy we developed in the ISSA Special Commission on Prevention together with all 14 Prevention Sections establishes the basis for building a systematic prevention programme, such as is the case in many African nations. At the same time, it serves as a platform for a worldwide movement. More than 11,000 institutions, companies and trainers have committed themselves by signing up to Vision Zero.

The great response to Vision Zero is a tremendous opportunity, but also an enormous responsibility.

The great response to Vision Zero represents a tremendous opportunity, but also an enormous responsibility for the ISSA and its Prevention Sections. We must find the right way to pass along our knowledge and our experience to our Vision Zero partners,

while supporting these partners in the context of a sustainable strategy for prevention.

Personal commitment is called for here as well! But how do the German member companies benefit from the work of the Section?

Jühling: On the one hand: When a level of protection can be maintained to a very high degree around the world, then it is not those companies who have demonstrated exceptional levels of commitment to occupational safety and health who come under pressure, but those who haven't. For me, it is the only right way, from an ethical perspective, as well.

On the other hand, it is necessary to consider service processes and supply chains in a holistic manner. This is especially true in "export world champion Germany", where these commonly function on an international basis. This is what makes networking within the ISSA so important. Many German companies are active around the world and use the Section's standards as a foundation for international cooperation. With our "Prevention Series" guides, we facilitate particularly small and mid-sized companies in their efforts to maintain legal compliance in other countries.

How did the Prevention Series come to be?

Jühling: I recall the beginning of my tenure with the BG in the early 1990s: A German company became a contractual partner with a French company within



Our standards are not directed 'from above', but are prepared by the people working in the industry and, for this reason, enjoy active support.



arcing and external company management, among others. To this day, the results of the theme-specific, international working groups are systematically summarized in guidelines that enjoy high demand both inside and outside of Germany.

The Section reaches out to an audience well beyond the Section itself through its publications and professional events. There's nothing comparable, is there?

Jühling: I don't know where else one could obtain such comprehensive support. Their specific occupational safety- and health-related knowledge makes the ISSA Sections unique. We can competently answer, in part, very specific questions and offer functional solutions to everyday operational problems. Our standards are not directed "from above", but are prepared by the people working in the industry and, for this reason, enjoy active support.

Hesse-Spötter: The structure of the 14 Sections has proven itself over time. How important it is for practical relevance that both companies and individuals can become members of a Section was made clear by

the context of a call for tenders. Yet, it was difficult to mutually recognize each other's "qualified electricians" due to the totally different vocational training requirements. Consequently, the German Social Accident Insurance Institution was called upon. This triggered the idea for establishing learning content and practical experience requirements, including the number of hours of technical instruction, in the form of a guideline.

This guideline helped establish an international standard and, as such, served to achieve a degree of acceptance in other countries. The compilation of requirements resulted from the collaborative, multi-national efforts within the ISSA Section and, in some cases, was even adopted into local national regulations.

We've retained this principle in other topic areas, as well, including protective equipment against electric

Section for Electricity, Gas and Water - Focal Points

14 International Prevention Sections

The Section for Electricity is one of 14 International Prevention Sections within the ISSA. These Prevention Sections are key players in the overall prevention concept, with their work encompassing a range of associated industries and OSH concerns. All Sections play a substantial role in addressing both traditional hazards as well as new and emerging risks. They form the backbone of ISSA's prevention activities.

Working Groups

Special working groups composed of international experts have been compiling specific guidelines for industrial practices based on findings from science, research and the work environment since 1999. In recent years, these guidelines have been supplemented by other publications, which focus more closely on organizational and psychological aspects.

Technical Publications

The Section has published technical guidelines since 2003, based on the knowledge gained through the special working groups:

- Guideline for Assessing the Competence of Persons Involved in Live Working
- Guideline on Managing Safety in the Use of Portable Electrical Equipment in the Workplace
- Guideline for the Selection of Personal Protective Clothing when Exposed to the Thermal Effects of an Electric Fault Arc

Organisational / Psychological Publications

The following guidance material has been published since 2015:

- Guidance for the Management of Health and Safety Performance – Supporting and Empowering Middle Level Managers in the Electricity Industry
- Guidance on the Safe Management of Contracts: A Contract Lifecycle Approach
- 10 Reasons Why Your CEO Should be Convinced to Take OSH Seriously





Sections contribute to branch-specific know-how and, for another, they can bundle their energies in a Section-overarching capacity. We can take optimal advantage of the synergetic effects from the international collaboration this Commission affords. The tremendous success of Vision Zero is the best example for this.

The work of the ISSA benefits from the fact that we act as a politically neutral, non-profit platform. The Sections are open for collaboration with public organizations and companies committed to occupational safety and health. This enables us to incorporate both theoretical approaches and practical experience into Section activities.

Jühling: While the ISSA in Geneva is responsible for social security schemes at a superordinate level, I regard the particular mission of the Section as one of contributing tangible impulses at a practical level.

Jens Jühling. All Sections worked together to make this a reality. The opportunity for exchange between institutional and operational prevention specialists is extremely important, especially considering the rapidity of technological development.

The ISSA Section for Electricity, Gas and Water is active on two levels: The one is branch-related within the Section, while the other is thematically overarching within the Special Commission on Prevention. The Section for Electricity has provided the Chairperson for the Special Commission for over ten years. How important is this?

Hesse-Spötter: Very important. The ISSA Special Commission on Prevention can have a great impact because, for one reason, the



Meeting of the Special Commission on Prevention at the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH), UK, in February 2020

Section for Electricity, Gas and Water - Focal Points

Special Commission on Prevention

This Special Commission is composed of 14 International Prevention Sections, each of which has its own work plan contributing to the Special Commission's overall work plan. As presidency holder of the Special Commission, the Section for Electricity coordinates the joint activities of the International Sections in the field of prevention of occupational risks, as well as other prevention activities within the ISSA, such as the Vision Zero Strategy.

International Film Festival

In 1990 the Electricity Section organized the first Film and Video Festival in Hamburg, Germany, in connection with the XII World Congress on Occupational Safety and Health. Subsequent Film Festivals have been carried out within the framework of the World Congresses in New Delhi, India, in 1993 and Madrid, Spain, in 1996.

International Media Festival for Prevention

Since the Festival was expanded in 1999 to include multimedia products (São Paulo, Brazil), the ISSA Section for Information has become a valuable partner in the organization of the Festival.

Further Festival locations:

- 2011 Istanbul, Turkey
- 2002 Vienna, Austria
- 2005 Orlando, USA
- 2008 Seoul, South Korea
- 2014 Frankfurt/Main, Germany
- 2017 Singapore, Singapore
- 2020 Toronto, Canada

International Symposium on Electrical Safety (SISE) in Latin America

After the first SISE was held in Cuba in 2001, further symposia have taken place in Peru, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Ecuador, Mexico, Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil and Bolivia. The next SISE is going to be organized on a virtual basis in Panama in 2021.

The advantage is that the Sections can be proactive and establish their own professionally-relevant areas of focus. It is also clear that: Political support is essential in order to advance the international cause of occupational safety and health. As previously mentioned, the "G7" resolution to foster good working conditions worldwide was an important step.

The media plays an important role in this. How did the International Media Festival for Prevention come to be?

Hesse-Spötter: Early on, within the previous BG FE at the national level, we asked ourselves as to how we could best communicate our message about prevention. The work of prevention can only be successful if we can reach and convince the people at the operating level. The BG FE was among the first statutory accident insurance providers to take advantage of the film media already in the 1960s: A picture can often say more than a thousand words and a film can touch us emotionally to a greater extent than text can. The message comes across even better and remains embedded in our memories.

Our predecessors at the head of the Section for Electricity initiated the International Film Festival in the 1990s. We have developed it further into today's International Media Festival for Prevention. Together with our partner, the ISSA Section for Information, we present and award the best media products from across the globe every three years. Over the past 30 years, the Festival has evolved from a side event into one of the

most popular features of the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work. We are grateful for the international working groups and the jury who support us, and we are even a bit proud of this unique Festival.

The goal of the ISSA is to create a world, in which people in distress can place their trust in the social security system. The importance of this has now become even more evident with the global outbreak of the Corona pandemic.

Jühling: At the same time, we must bear in mind that there are those who have fallen out of our social security system, among other reasons due to German labour reforms. An autonomous self-employed person, for example, may not carry statutory accident



Often, the message of prevention no longer reaches the globally dispersed workforce.



insurance. Likewise, some of our proven company instruments towards prevention, such as personal instruction, may lose their impact. Oftentimes, the message of prevention no longer reaches the globally dispersed workforce.

Hesse-Spötter: With an ever-increasing number of people no longer covered by statutory accident protection, we must begin to question our legislation and adapt it where needed.



This is one of the consequences of modern labour reforms. How are the institutions responding to this?

Hesse-Spötter: When we speak of digitalization, we are speaking of an international challenge – this topic was addressed in February 2020 at an ISSA symposium in Malaysia with the participation of the ISSA Special Commission on Prevention. It was clear that global questions demand that we find global answers. For some time now, we have been in the middle of a development that is bringing lasting change not only to the working world at an increasing pace. The requirements and the possibilities in the fields of prevention, rehabilitation and financial coverage within social security systems are undergoing extensive changes, as well. For us, it is both: a tremendous challenge as well as a tremendous opportunity.

In the field of prevention, for example, there are entirely new possibilities: The evaluation of large volumes of data for the analysis of near-accidents can help to identify patterns and ultimately prevent accidents. To this end, our Section has just recently established an internationally staffed working group.

Jühling: Digitalization can also bring about new hazards. Our Section wants to contribute to the continuous improvement of international qualifications in the field of electrical safety; and this through our activities, including seminars and publications as a minimum. At the present time I am actively participating in the preparation of a new White Paper for the IEC addressing Safety in the Future.



In times of change, the '7 Golden Rules' of Vision Zero provide institutions and companies with a solid foundation and orientation for safe practice.



great changes that are taking place at an ever increasing pace. Therefore, it is good that we can shape and develop a culture of prevention in conformity with the Vision Zero strategy. In times of change, the “7 Golden Rules“ of Vision Zero provide institutions and companies with a solid foundation and orientation for safe practice.

Hesse-Spötter: The past 50 years have shown us that the founding fathers of the Section were extremely foresighted in creating, with the Section, a platform that would make it possible to share and continue developing know-how and experience across national borders. We are grateful to the BG ETEM self-administration body, who share in this programme, while enabling and supporting our international initiatives. Today, in the age of globalization and digitalization, we, as the Section for Electricity, are integrated into a strong international network under the umbrella of the ISSA. I am very confident that this affiliation puts us in the very best position to take on and to conquer the tremendous challenges that will surely accompany the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Thank you for the interview and we wish you continued success!

Hesse-Spötter: We know that a lack of qualifications is a frequent contributor to accidents and health hazards. For this reason, we maintain a strong focus on initial and ongoing training. The subject matter of “Occupational Safety and Health” should be an integral part of the curriculum at schools and universities, as well. This is a common goal for the future throughout all ISSA Sections.

Jühling: Digitalization and other challenges, such as upgrading electrical supply networks and electric mobility, will also be addressed at the next World Congress in Toronto. Naturally, we are also analysing how digital systems can benefit prevention efforts. Augmented Reality as live support for equipment maintenance and repair work is one example. Digitalization promises exciting opportunities. When we speak of Work 4.0 today, we are referring to a time of

Prevention as a Media Spectacle

Film and multimedia productions can inspire passion and convey knowledge – this goes for all cultures. Every three years, the Section for Electricity, Gas and Water, with its International Media Festival for Prevention as part of the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work, demonstrates just how these can be put to use on the international occupational safety and health scene. The Festival is organized together with the ISSA Section for Information.



An international jury determines the winners of the Media Festival from the nominations submitted. The awards are presented in front of a large audience during the Special Media Session at the World Congress. All nominated productions are presented to an international audience as part of the Festival's film programme throughout the entire Congress www.mediainprevention.org



The Festival offers every Congress participant insight into how occupational safety and health protection is being presented through media in other countries and in their various cultures – here are the winners and jury members of the Festival in 2017

Section for Electricity, Gas and Water - Focal Points

Vision Zero: 7 Golden Rules

1. Take leadership – demonstrate commitment
2. Identify hazards – control risks
3. Define targets – develop programmes
4. Ensure a safe and healthy system – be well-organized
5. Ensure safety and health in machines, equipment and workplaces
6. Improve qualifications – develop competence
7. Invest in people – motivate by participation

OSH Management

The „International Forum - Modern OSH Organisation in Europe“ has been organized by the Luxembourg Accident Insurance Association (AAA), the German Social Accident Insurance Institution for the energy, textile, electrical and media products sectors (BG ETEM) and the ISSA Section for Electricity since 2007. The event is held alternately in Germany and Luxembourg every two years.

Training Activities

The training of safety engineers that began in 2003 at the German Social Accident Insurance Institution's training centres in Linowsee and Dresden, Germany has established itself as an important instrument for advanced international training and the interchange of knowledge.

Presidents

- 1970-1980 Hermann Pültz
- 1980-1994 Ewald Siller
- 1994-2001 Christian Leichsenring
- 2001-2005 Dr Klaus Renz
- 2005-2017 Olaf Petermann
- Since 2017 Martina Hesse-Spötter



AUSTRIA



Allgemeine Unfallversicherungsanstalt

CHILE



Mutual de Seguridad CCHC

CUBA



Unión Eléctrica de Cuba

CZECH REPUBLIC



Czech Association of Energy Sector Employers

ECUADOR



Fundación CICE

GERMANY



ABB AG

GERMANY



Berufsgenossenschaft Energie, Textil, Elektro, Medienerzeugnisse



BG ETEM Prüf- und Zertifizierungsstelle



Berufsgenossenschaft Handel und Warenlogistik



Siemens AG



VDE-Ausschuss Sicherheits- und Unfallforschung

LUXEMBOURG



Association d'assurance accident

NEW ZEALAND



Electricity Engineers' Association

Electricity Engineers' Association

PARAGUAY



Administración Nacional de Electricidad

Administración Nacional de Electricidad

PERU



Electro Sur Este S.A.A.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA



Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency

SPAIN



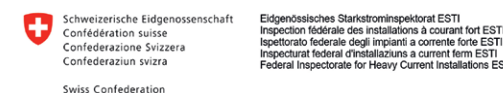
Ezentis



Fraternidad Muprespa

Fraternidad Muprespa

SWITZERLAND



Eidgenössisches Starkstrominspektorat

TURKEY



Association of Distribution System Operators

Association of Distribution System Operators



Electricity Generation Company Inc.



Turkey Electricity Distribution AS



Turkish Electricity Transmission Corporation

UNITED KINGDOM



Energy Networks Association

AUSTRALIA



The University of Queensland

COSTA RICA



Grupo ICE
Negocio Transmisión

MEXICO



Desarrollo de Personal S.A. de C.V.

PARAGUAY



Facultad de Ingeniería de la Universidad
Nacional de Asunción

CHILE



Consejo Nacional de Seguridad de Chile

CROATIA



HEP Group



PADE Ingenieria S.A. de C.V.

PERU



Asociación Gremial de Empresas de Productos
Eléctricos Internacionales del Perú



Starclutch



Ministry of Labour Welfare and Social Insurance



SEGELECTRICA SAS



Electro Dunas

COLOMBIA



ISA Intercolombia

ECUADOR



Sociedad Ecuatoriano de Seguridad Salud
Ocupacional y Gestión Ambiental (SESO)

NIGERIA



Lagos State Safety Commission



The National Power Grid Company Transelectrica



Norman Mejia Consulting S.A.S.

EL SALVADOR



Inspecciones Eléctricas



Niger Delta Power Holding Company LTD



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ENERGÉTICA REGIONAL

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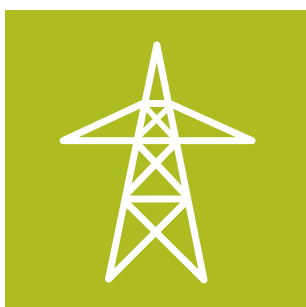


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Centro de Estudios de Seguridad

This publication was created in November 2020.



International Section of the ISSA for Electricity

c/o Berufsgenossenschaft Energie, Textil, Elektro, Medienerzeugnisse

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