

Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg

Occupational health and safety

Leaflet for employees

Numerous laws and regulations have been passed to guarantee **occupational health and safety**.

Industrial safety regulations include:

- Safety measures for the prevention of accidents
- Safe conduct of the employees
- Preventive medical check-ups

Company medical officers, occupational safety specialists and safety representatives support the superiors in all questions of occupational health and safety.

The following measures are taken to prevent accidents at work:

- **Reliability of equipment and installations**, use of equipment with CE mark, replacement of dangerous substances with substances having a lower risk potential.
- **Protective devices** on machines and equipment, working in closed systems or with fume hoods.
- **Personal protective equipment**, if risks cannot be completely eliminated with the help of protective devices, suitable personal protective equipment must be worn.

Notes: signs, danger warnings, designations, and notices

Obligations of the employer

- Before the start of work, all employees with executive function and discretionary power are obligated to instruct their employees, to inform them of possible dangers, to minimize hazards, and to supply personal protective equipment. Briefing is to be repeated annually.
- For the promotion of the occupational health and safety, employees have to be allowed to participate in security seminars and training programs; **please take advantage of these offers.**

Obligations of the employees

Effective safety at work can be accomplished only if the employees cooperate. You are obligated to

- pay attention to your own protection and the protection of others,
- follow the instructions of your superiors (operating instructions, handling instructions, fire regulations, etc.), to oppose to instructions that obviously breach the safety regulations,
- comply with prohibitions and conditions,
- wear personal protective equipment,
- use equipment, operational means and working substances for the intended purpose only,
- if possible, remedy or report safety deficiencies and risks of accident or arrange for the remedy of the deficiencies,
- inform the responsible clerk of accidents, near misses, damages, defects or detected dangers.