



Go

	Themes	Emerging risks	Surveys & Statistics	Legislation	Campaigns & Awards
Tools & Publications	About EU-OSHA				

[Home](#) » [Tools & Publications](#) » [Publications](#) » Factsheet 77 - The business...

▼ [Tools & Publications](#)

- **Publications**
 - [Risk assessment tool \(OIRA\)](#)
 - [OSHwiki](#)
- [Seminar reports](#)
- [e-guide manage stress](#)
- [Napo](#)
- [Campaign toolkit](#)
- [Infographics](#)

Publications

[View all publications](#) and [filter](#)

11/01/2008

Factsheet 77 - The business benefits of good occupational safety and health



Occupational safety and health (OSH) is good for business as well as a legal and social obligation. Enterprises appreciate that OSH prevents people from being harmed or made ill through work, but it is also an essential part of a successful business.

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External economic incentives for prevention

Daniela Treutlein, TNO, the Netherlands

Economic incentives in occupational safety and health (OSH) describe processes that reward organisations for safe and healthy [workplaces](#). From a European perspective, incentives are seen as an effective tool complementary

to OSH regulation aimed at encouraging businesses at the management level to provide good OSH. Tax or insurance premium reductions are common examples. A range of economic incentive schemes can be classified along two lines: First, according to the source issuing the incentive, i.e., public governmental authorities or workers' compensation insurers, and second, according to the mode of operation, i.e., result-based or effort-based incentives. Below, the most commonly applied external financial incentive schemes are explained in further detail.

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