Ministerie van Sociale Zaken en Werkgelegenheid

A culture of prevention – the role of the goverment

Rob Triemstra

Head of department

Health and Safety at Work

Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment – The Hague

24-10-2016

Preventive policy

- Interest employers and employees

- Preventive policy is of great importance

- Is more than complying with rules

- Pro-active, prevention, integral part of businesspolicy

- Change of attitude from compliance to participation

- Health and safety culture in companies

Public-private

- Employers and employees have an interest and a responsibility

- Importance of intermediairy organizations

- Key is support, encouragement and spreading information and knowledge

- Government has a specific role too

Role of the government

- Providing (legal) frameworks

- Encouraging and facilitating businesses

- Spreading information and knowledge

- Monitoring: effects and compliance with regulations, risk-based

Role of the government

The government facilitates and encourages

However the initiative is with employers, workers and intermediairy organizations.

This is accomodated by encouragement programs

Occupational Safety Improvement

- Additional approach for legislation / participation approach
- Business take the initiative
- Number of individual accidents <10%
  - Improvement actions
  - Quantitative risk model

1) Campaign Always Alert
2) Work Buddies in Metal
3) Forklift Truck Heroes

Self-regulation

- Change from compliance to participation

- Inter-sectoral exchange and inspiration

- Safeguard the results

1) Inspirator videos

2) Theme based meetings

2) Subsidies

3) New means of communication (webinairs)

Sustainable employability

- Special attention to psychosocial workload, workpressure, bullying, intimidation, violence
- Continues dialog
- Aimed at keeping individuals at work

1) Communication campaigns

- Social media
- Good examples

2) Subsidies (e.g. SME's)

Conclusions

- Prevention is important
- Participation - health and safety culture
- Employers and workers are primarily responsible
- Government plays a specific role
- A need for a new intervention

- I hope that these examples will inspire