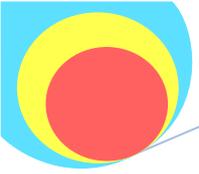




**ROMANIAN ASSOCIATION FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**





## Some background information about our organization

Romanian Association for Occupational Health and Safety (ARSSM) is a professional, non-governmental, of private possession organization, founded by the approval of Ministry of Labour.

ARSSM gathers professionals in the field of occupational health and safety in order to exchange information and best practices.

ARSSM is represented nationally by its 50 members – external services for prevention and protection.

Since its foundation in 2005, ARSSM has developed at national level and through all the activities carried on in the field of occupational health and safety, demonstrates the qualities of a reliable, loyal and potential partner both for governmental factors and social partners – employees and employers.

### **Mission**

In Romania are registered 1 fatal accident and 3 occupational diseases every day. It is estimated that 70% of the work-related accidents and occupational diseases have as main cause an improper attitude towards occupational health and safety. Changing attitudes depends upon the training process, that's why one of our main objectives is to **maintain high professional standards** through ARSSM's **continuous vocational training program**.

ARSSM provides access to information, standards, best practices guides, workshops and vocational training courses for that its members to develop and promote dynamic systems and policies in the field of occupational health and safety nationwide.

Being in the service of work communities (business- employees and employers), ARSSM undertakes actions aimed at raising awareness and changing their mentality in order to develop a world of work that is healthy, safe and sustainable.

ARSSM provides, through its members, expert advice and it is actively involved in the promotion of occupational risk prevention and health protection, aiming at increasing the welfare of all the workforce and improving working conditions.

Through all these activities, ARSSM has an important role in the development and implementation of national and European strategies in the field of occupational health and safety.

Under its statute, ARSSM is organised to provide companies and organisations with information, arguments and necessary means in order to raise awareness and lead them to integrate the prevention of occupational risks into their own economic management

### **Structure**

ARSSM is run by a board of directors made up of a chair, a senior vice-chair and 7 vice-chairs.

ARSSM is represented all over the country. We have established 3 other branches:

- \* ARSSM „Bucharest – Ilfov” branch – based in Bucharest
- \* ARSSM „Oltenia” branch – ARSSMO – based in Craiova
- \* ARSSM „Dunarea de Jos” branch – ARSSMDJB – based in Braila

Are being set up another branches:

- ARSSM Center branch – with the headquarter in Brasov
- ARSSM West branch - with the headquarter in Timisoara or Arad

- ARSSM North – West branch – with the headquarter in Oradea
- ARSSM North – East branch – with the headquarter in Suceava

The General Assembly Meeting it is held once a year.

### Overall objective

#### ✚ Creating a healthy and safe working environment

Through all the events that we organize as conferences, workshops, seminars we intend to raise awareness among employers, employees and the public to prevent work accidents and occupational diseases and decrease the number of victims.

#### Performance indicators

- 10% reduction in occupational accidents and diseases
- 10% reduction of work-related illnesses;
- 20% reduction of the number of sick leave due to occupational diseases;

### Specific objectives:

#### ✚ Implementing new structures and development of occupational health and safety strategy

Romanian Association for Occupational Health and Safety has a national network of focal points. According to our strategy, we will create Integrated Centres of occupational health and safety to the focal points of the existing network. Through these multidisciplinary bodies, ARSSM aims to minimize occupational risks by promoting quality of working conditions and improve the work organisation by promoting the protection of health and welfare of workforce.

Since occupational health and safety always involves interactions among various areas: occupational medicine,

occupational hygiene, public health, industrial chemistry, industrial safety, ergonomics and psychology, the Integrated Centre brings together all the relevant professionals, as a working team within the same body. As a result the Integrated Centre will provide occupational health services (especially preventive medicine), ergonomic solutions, determinations of exposure (monitor the exposure of employees), air samples, adapting aging workforce, development of safety programmes, strategies of increasing staff and employee engagement, a program to improve strategies.

#### ✚ Improvement health and safety legislation and its compliance in order to harmonize with European Directives.

ARSSM has a close collaboration with others national and European bodies in the field of occupational health and safety and seeks the certification and recognition of OSH professionals competencies and qualifications at European level.

ARSSM is a founding member of the Union of Health and Safety Coordinators in Romania.

We are a full member of **ENSHPO** (European Network of Safety and Health Professional Organizations), and have as partners **EU-OSHA Romanian Focal Point** and **IOSH** (Institution of Occupational Safety and Health U.K.).

#### ARSSM is committed to:

- ✚ Develop an occupational health and safety culture by organising in partnership with national and European bodies of several events as conferences, campaigns etc:

During 23 -24 September 2010 „Working in partnership for safer and healthier workplaces” national conference

in collaboration with our partner IOSH – UK and with the support of our national partners Ministry of Labour, Labour Inspection, INCDPM and EU-OSHA Romanian Focal Point. We have created a special site for this great event: [http://www.conf.arssm.ro/index\\_en.html](http://www.conf.arssm.ro/index_en.html)

As a partner within a co-financed project from the European Social Fund - “Organisational, functional and employment flexibility – critical conditions for economic development of enterprises”, ARSSM has trained within vocational training courses and workshops, approximately 1000 persons. Through this project ARSSM continued to fulfil its mission in order to develop an occupational health and safety culture. .

ARSSM had an important role in the dissemination activity of EUSAFE (European Qualification for Occupational Safety and Health Professionals project results). ARSSM was responsible for the dissemination of the results in Eastern Europe countries: Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, Serbia. The overall ultimate goal of this project was to facilitate the free movement of a competent labour force across the EU countries, supported by recognition of a harmonized professional competence, specifically for those people working in the field of Occupational Safety and Health.

**Foster traffic risk prevention within enterprises**

In the past three years ARSSM undertook several actions in the field of traffic risk prevention:

During June – October 2011 „**National Campaign for Safety Traffic and Motor Vehicle Maintenance in Romania**” in partnership with IOSH – UK and Romanian

authorities Inter-Ministerial Council for Road Safety, General Inspectorate of Romanian Police – Road Department, Romanian Road Authority, General Inspectorate for Emergency situations. The main objective of this campaign was to decrease the number of road accidents by raising awareness among traffic participants, employers and employees within transport companies.

In 2012 we run the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of „**National Campaign for Safety Traffic and Motor Vehicle Maintenance in Romania**”- **Traffic Risks Prevention in Romania** campaign in partnership with Inter-Ministerial Council for Road Safety and EU-OSHA Romanian Focal Point.

As a result of the 2 Campaigns, ARSSM developed a good practice guide “Traffic risk. Where to?”. This guide is nothing but the conclusive evidence of the evolution of traffic risk control which, if professional and competent applied, can prevent and minimize the consequences of accidents. **Education is the key of prevention.**

**According to its statute ARSSM commits itself to:**

- develop actions to promote the prevention of occupational risks, with the objective of protecting the health of workers, workplace safety and improving life quality within companies;
- ensure missions undertaken in full technical and moral independence;
- devote the resources gained for the completion of the missions, improvement of services and development of co-workers competencies;
- develop at all levels of the association, an active understanding of the needs of companies and their employees;

- develop a multidisciplinary and integrated approach, within the practices and strategies of prevention;
- support , foster, maintain – for all its members, advisors in prevention - a high professional standard and an ethical behaviour in their relations;
- implement the objectives set out in the statute through a quality management system of the activities performed and assess on a regular basis the progress of the association against current achievements.



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