



MOSCOW TRADE UNION FEDERATION

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"Occupational Health and Safety and the Role on the European Capitals trade unions"

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Volume of active employment in Moscow is equal to 6,5 Mio workers. Accordingly to statistic data the number of workers employed in conditions which are not passing to sanitary and hygienic norms and standards is equal to 107 thousand people (or statistically 14.2% of all workers). Inside this data - 43% are working in conditions of the boosted noise, ultrasound and infrasound; 30% - in conditions of higher level of gas pollution and dustiness.

In 2009 the number of first time diagnosed cases of professional diseases in Moscow was equal to 180 (in 2008 - 105, in 2007 - 179). The first place among professional diseases takes the organs of hearing and breathing injuries (particularly 15% are bronchial asthma and asthmatoïd bronchitis). Vibratory pathology amounts to 12,4% from the total volume of professional diseases.

The whole amount of professional injuries per 1000 workers was in 2009 equal to 1.4. The amount of fatalities on work decreased comparing to the last year for 20%, and in the organizations which have trade unions, - for 32.8%.

Despite the annual decreasing of professional injuries level inside the cities, in the retail and wholesale trade organizations the number of professional injuries cases with severe or lethal outcome increased for 8%.

The main reason is that many private-owned companies, including transnational corporations, hinder the foundation of primary trade union organizations. There is no public control, and ordinarily there is incompliance of industrial safety rules.

The branches which are experiencing more OHS problems in Moscow are - construction, industry, transport and trade.

With a breakdown into professions the most injuries-risky are drivers, electricians, mounters, bricklayers and utility workers.

In Moscow there is both public (trade unions') and governmental control over OHS norms abidance.

The public control exercise technical inspections of trade unions. The numerical strength of Technical Inspection of MTUF and its member organizations (branch trade unions) amounts to 45 persons. Besides that there are elections of authorized personnel for labor protection in primary trade union organizations on enterprises. They exercise control over OHS requirements on work places. At present the number of such primary trade union organizations is more than 24 thousand people.

The governmental control over OHS norms abidance exercise: Moscow State trade inspection, Administration of the Federal ecological and technological Supervision of the Russian Federation (branch control), Prosecutor Moscow's Office.

The economic crisis affected the OHS problems solution negatively. In some organizations is flagged the decreasing of OHS measurements financing, and also the decreasing of OHS specialists. In certain cases the employers give up the OHS training carrying and work places certification accordingly to trade conditions.

Moscow Trade Union Federation is working in OHS area in co-work with Government executive bodies. There are treaties concluded concerning the co-work together with Prosecutor Moscow's Office and Moscow State trade inspection.

The technical trade union's inspection is taking part in commissions devoted to investigation of every industrial accident which can be estimated as severe, group or fatal.

In 2009 the technical trade union's inspection has taken part in investigation of 159 accidents, including 42 fatal cases. Besides that the technical trade union's inspection is carrying out scheduled inspections of OHS conditions, discovering dangerous and injurious factors, which may cause professional diseases.

In co-operation with trade unions there was worked out the methodology for carrying out the medical examinations of workers who is involved in contact with harmful and (or) dangerous industrial factors in Moscow. At the suggestion of trade unions the Moscow city center of professional pathology for the diagnostic and distinguishing of diseases in early stages.

Technical trade inspection of MTUF is taking part in legal proceedings concerning labor disputes and claims connected with infringement of rights of trade union's members in the labor protection area.

Active work of Moscow' trade unions together with deputy members of Moscow City Duma gave the opportunity to achieve the adoption of statute "About trade protection in the city of Moscow" (there is no similar statute on the federal level); also the adoption of "Provision of the system of governmental management of labor protection in the city", and also the City Special-purpose Program of labor protection in Moscow for the period 2010-2011.

In Moscow' trilateral agreement for 2010 between Moscow Government, Moscow' trade unions and employers unions are included employers liabilities concerning non-recurring payment of compensation for the family of worker which death was caused through the fault of employer in case of accident on work - in the amount of at least 50 minimum salary in the city of Moscow.

The issues of compensations payments for the worker in case of industrial accident are declared in collective agreements and treaties in organizations, accordingly to the requirement of trade unions.

Technical trade inspection of MTUF and branch trade unions is taking part in the consideration of labor disputes and claims connected with infringement of rights of trade union's members in the labor protection area in court. More than 400 personal queries and claims connected with infringement of rights of workers in labor protection area are considered by technical trade inspection of trade unions. More than 90% of these claims are decided for workers' benefit.