



A Review of Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Regulations

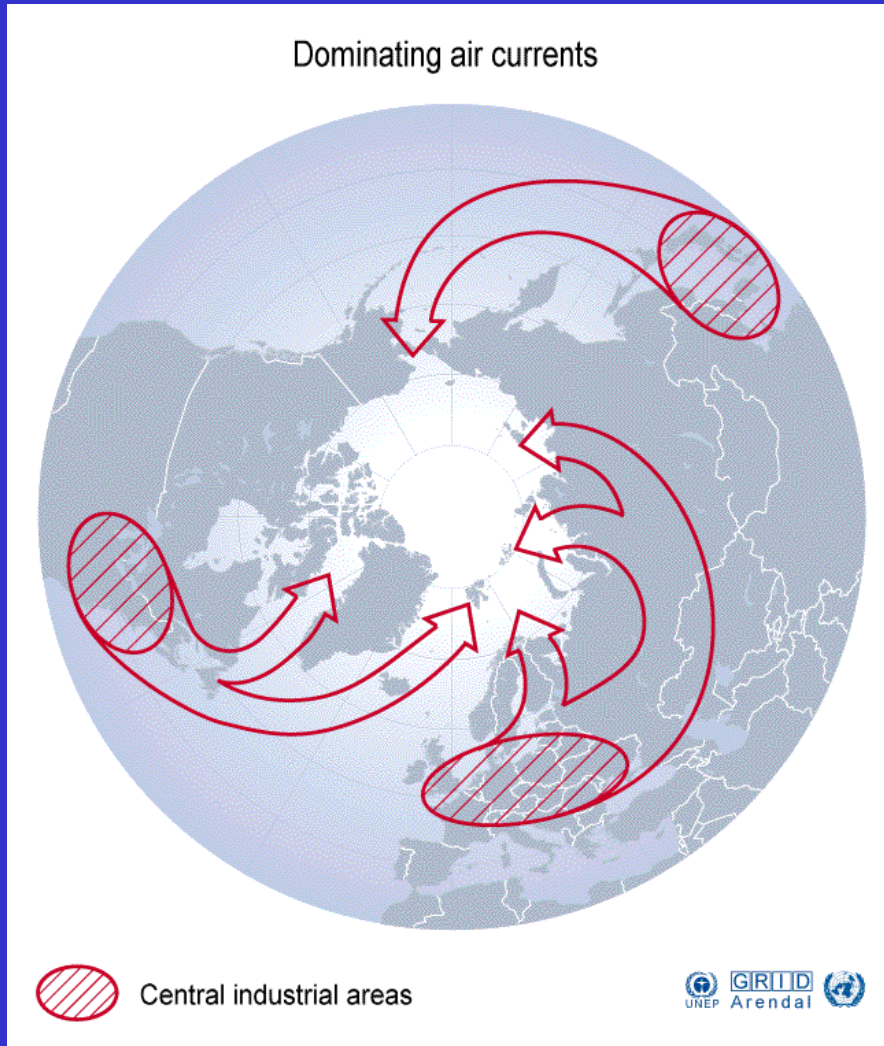
An introduction to the subject

presented by

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A common environmental future with no borders!



**This is our spaceship;
The Earth.
We are literally all on
board the same ship.**

**The arrows are the
dominating air
currents, but can
symbolise that pollution
and environmental
issues today knows no
borders.**

There are several international organisations dealing with OHES matters:



- **UN- United Nations through:**

- **UNEP- United Nations Environmental Programme**
and



- **WHO-World Health Organisation**





- ILO - International Labour Organization through:



- CIS - International Occupational Safety and Health Information. [\(Note 1\)](#)
- IPCS - International Programme on Chemical Safety

CIS - a world-wide information service

The major objective of CIS is to be a world-wide service dedicated to the collection and dissemination of information on the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases.

- assisted by 120 national institutions working with OSH

It is assisted in its work by more than 120 national institutions around the world dealing with OSH matters in their own countries.

- supported by an international database (LEGOSH)

CIS has created a database of legislative texts on occupational safety and health information, called LEGOSH, which is accessible at www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/safework/cis/products/legosh.htm.

- providing 3500 regulations etc. in approximately. 140 countries

LEGOSH – as of 2001 – consists of references to more than 3500 laws, regulations and international legal instruments dealing with OSH matters in approximately 140 countries and international organizations. References to the ILO's OSH-related Conventions are of course also included.



- **OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development through:**
- **GFSD - Global Forum of Sustainable Development**
(Note 2)
- **Buying “Green”**
 - **A Recommendation passed by the OECD Council C (2002) 3 lists steps that governments should take to ensure “green” procurement.**

Good health is necessary for individuals to flourish as citizens, family members, workers and consumers.

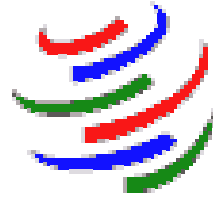
Improving health is a key concern of OECD societies, as it will contribute to higher economic growth and improved welfare.

Governments need to act now and change their policies to prevent irreversible damages to our environment.

This is the key message of the OECD Environmental Outlook, a pioneer report that provides economy-based projections of environmental pressures and conditions until 2020.

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**WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION**



- **WTO** - **World Trade Organization (former GATT). Work on trade and environment dates back 30 years**
- **CTE** - **Committee on Trade and Environment, which consists of all WTO members.**
Environmental issues can be – and are – also discussed in other WTO bodies, including the Ministerial Conference, General Council and the negotiating groups.

These international or supranational organisations are mostly advisory in the OHES-fields.

In addition there are several hundreds international agreements regarding OHES and over 200 for environmental matters only.

In each country Rules and Regulations regarding OHES are normally enforced by law.

My experience is that there always will be new and stricter regulations coming up in the future.

Provisional guidelines exists from the WHO!

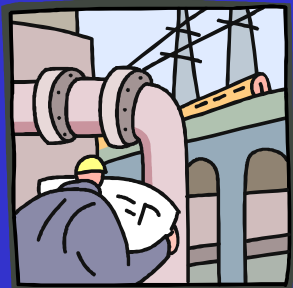
If we look at our Metal, Mn; WHO – The World Health Organization – has established provisional guideline values of:



- 0,5 mg/litre for Mn in drinking water,



- an annual air quality guideline of 0,15 mg/m³, and



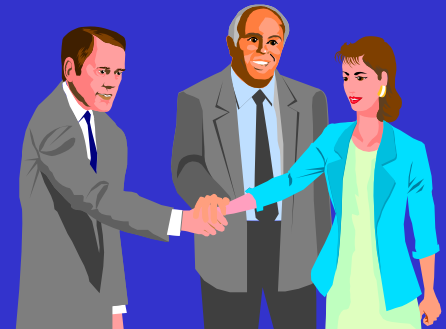
- a workplace exposure limit in air of 0,3 mg/m³ for respirable particles containing manganese.

What policies and regulations there are in different countries we will hear later in this session. But many countries may look to advised limits and guidelines from international bodies like the WHO when they want to set or revise their own regulations.

The Manganese industry will face strict demands!

We, the manganese industry, will certainly have very tough demands thrown upon us in the future regarding OHES matters.

The Demands will come from several stakeholders, like our workers, neighbours, society in general, governmental bodies, NGO's and Customers.



For instance, some of our customers are already asking us and checking if we have environmental friendly production and good workplace OH and S-standards in our plant.

Investors and financial institutions are already regarding the OHES-standard of a company very important.

The future is already here!

Outlook - “more of this”

I think we will see more of this in the future, and also that regulations will force industry to buy only from OHES-friendly (“green”) companies.

...and it is already here!

We can already see it implemented in voluntarily OHES-systems like:

- EMAS-Eco-Management and Audit Scheme, and**
- ISO 14000.**

To prepare for this, the first and best we can do is to monitor our present situation regarding OHES.

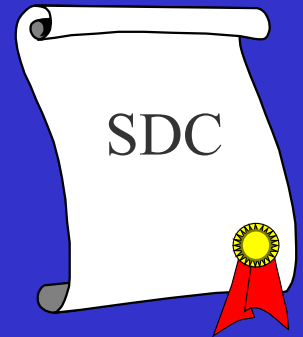
IMnI have guidelines for workplace monitoring on its website.

Maybe **IMnI** should make guidelines for ambient air monitoring, too. And others?

It is important that we use the same methods for monitoring throughout our industry.

Covering future ground through a common Scientific Criteria Document for the Mn Industry

The institute are preparing for the future by, among other things, having a Scientific Criteria Document for Manganese (SCD) prepared. It will be finished next spring.



The SCD will be very useful for members when their governmental bodies propose new limits for Mn in the workplace atmosphere.

Preparing for the future through IMnI membership!



If you by then know your **status** by **monitoring** and have the **SCD in hand**, you are very well prepared to **discuss with the authorities** to get the right and well funded scientific regulations and to **plan actions** to comply with new future regulations.

This is a very good reason to be or become a member of IMnI.

THANK YOU!