



# Screening: Explanatory Meeting Occupational Safety & Health

Brussels, 8 February 2006





# Strategy on Health and Safety at work 2002-2006

## AIM

- To facilitate the application of existing health and safety at work legislation and to come up with new ideas.
- To support principles of risk prevention culture, better application of existing law and a global approach to well-being at work
  - How?
    - ☞ adapt the legal framework,
    - ☞ support innovative approaches (e.g. best practice, corporate social responsibility) and
    - ☞ mainstream health and safety at work in other EU policies



# Strategy on Health and Safety at work 2002-2006

- 210 million working days lost in the EU15 each year due to accidents at work (Third European Survey on Working Conditions 2000 – ESWC)
- 350 million working days lost each year due to work-related diseases (ESWC)
- Accidents at work were estimated to have caused costs of €55 billion in the EU15 in 2000 (Eurostat publication 2004)





# Strategy on Health and Safety at work 2002-2006

- **Changes in society**
  - More females in the workforce
  - An ageing active population
- **Changes in forms of employment**
  - Diversified forms of employment
  - Different types of contracts
  - Different forms of work
- **Changes in the nature of risks**
  - New and emerging risks i.e. Stress, harassment, violence





# Strategy on Health and Safety at work 2002-2006

- A global approach to well-being at work (ILO definition)
- Consolidating a culture of risk prevention in an enlarged Europe
- Strengthening of competitiveness – the cost of non-quality