



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

Social Dialogue, Social Rights, Working Conditions, Adaptation to Change  
**Social Dialogue, Industrial Relations**

**Technical seminar**  
**"Needlesticks' injuries in the Hospital sector:**  
**What role for social partners?"**  
**07 February 2008**  
**Brussels**

10.00: *Welcoming coffee*

10.15: **Opening of the technical seminar** (*Jackie Morin, European Commission, Head of Unit "Social Dialogue, Industrial Relations"*)

10.30: **Needlesticks' injuries in Europe**

- The consultation process on needlessticks' injuries (*Francisco Alvarez Hidalgo, European Commission, Unit "Health, Safety and Hygiene at Work"*)
- Campaigns from Bilbao Agency (*Zinta Podniece Project Manager, Unit "Working Environment Information"*)
- The European medical devices legislation- Structure and new tendencies (*Manfred Kohler, European Commission unit "Cosmetics and medical devices", DG Enterprise*)

11.30: **Interventions by Trade unions/Employers representatives on the state of play in their country where practices go beyond existing regulations (First session)**

– ***The Italian case: Needlestick-prevention devices in the Italian health care setting: the Siroh experience***

- Employers presentation (*Gabriella De Carli*)

12.15: **Debate**

12.30: *Common lunch*

**14.00: (Second session)**

**– The UK case:**

***Management of Health and Safety issues at work***

- Employers presentation (*Julian Topping*)

***Trade Union presentation (Robert Baughan/Kim Suly) (tbc)***

**– The Austrian cases:**

***(1) Healthcare Workers and Blood-borne Infections due to needlestick Injuries***

- Employers' presentation (*Dr Wolfgang Steflitsch*)

***(2) Needlestick injuries - procedure and statistical data at SALK (Salzburger Landeskliniken - Salzburg Province Hospital holding)***

- Employers' presentations (*Dr Renate Waclawiczek*)

***Trade Union presentation (Mr Bernhard Harreither)***

**15.15: Views of the sectoral social dialogue committee in the Hospitals' sector**

- EPSU Analysis
- HOSPEEM Analysis

**15.40: Coffee Break**

**15.50: Exploring the scope for a joint initiative from the European social partners**

- Debate

**16.30: Conclusions and next steps**