

Foresight of new and emerging occupational safety and health risks associated with information and communications technologies and work locations by 2025

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) has commissioned this two year foresight to the Foresight Centre of the UK Health and Safety Laboratory (HSL), SAMI Consulting (SAMI) and Futurizon Limited. It commenced in March 2016.

The foresight will produce a set of scenarios to 2025 to consider the potential impacts that developments in information and communication technologies (ICT) and changes in work location (including the development of the EU Digital Single Market) may have on workers' safety and health. The aim of the project is to inform EU decision makers, Member States' Governments, trade unions and employers, so that they can take decisions to shape the future of occupational safety and health (OSH) towards safer and healthier workplaces.

The work will be carried out in three distinct phases:

- **Work package 1** will involve the identification of key contextual drivers of change that could contribute to creating new and emerging risks associated with ICT and changes in work location. This will be achieved by horizon scanning, followed by a consultation exercise involving structured interviews and a Delphi web consultation exercise with a range of experts and key thinkers.
- **Work package 2** will develop the scenarios. The first step consists in developing a set of 'base scenarios' describing possible and plausible visions of the world of work in 2025 shaped by the key drivers of change from work package 1. This will be followed by a multidisciplinary workshop involving a representative cross section of participants, including ICT and OSH experts, to explore the future OSH challenges and opportunities associated with ICT and workplace location in each scenario. In a further workshop with policy-makers the resulting scenarios will be tested and refined with regard to their use for the development of strategy options addressing the future OSH challenges identified.
- **Work package 3** will comprise a series of workshops across Europe to promote the project findings as well as the use of the scenarios as a tool to address the future OSH challenges associated with developments in ICT and work location.

If you would like further information on this project please contact:

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The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) <https://osha.europa.eu> is an agency of the European Union. Its role is to contribute to the improvement of working life in the EU by developing, analysing and disseminating information on occupational safety and health (OSH).

HSL www.hsl.gov.uk helps the UK Health and Safety Executive minimise risks to people's health and safety at work. They have over 100 years' experience and work with a wide range of other public and private-sector organisations, conducting detailed bespoke research and development work on their behalf.

SAMI Consulting www.samiconsulting.co.uk was founded in 1989 by Shell and the University of St Andrews. It is one of the leading practitioners in the UK of the art of effectively using strategic futures methods to improve the development of public policy.

Futurizon <http://www.futurizon.com> is a futures consultancy undertaking a full range of futures related projects.