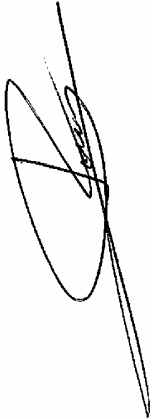




## **EBC AND MEMBERS' CHARTER FOR THE PROMOTION OF HEALTH AND SAFETY AMONG CRAFTWORKERS AND SMEs IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR**

***E.B.C** (European Builders Confederation) is the European professional organisation, which represents national organisations, representing craftworkers and SMEs of the construction sector. EBC was created in 1990 and currently has thirteen member organisations totalling over 400 000 craftworkers and small and medium sized enterprises.*



The Health and Safety of the professionals and the public at large is a prime concern in high-risk activities, such as construction. The European Commission has set up a European policy to effectively fight work accidents and work related illnesses and consequently has elaborated its Community strategy until 2006. The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work has chosen as its campaign theme 2004 "Building in Safety", the main event being the European week for safety and health at work, scheduled to take place from the 18<sup>th</sup> until the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2004.

To contribute to the promotion of Health and Safety for Craftworkers and SMEs of the European construction sector, EBC and its member organisations, at the EBC General Assembly at Camogli (Italy), which is taking place during the European week for safety and health in the construction sector, decide to adopt this Charter.

## I GENERAL COMMITMENTS

EBC's member organisations commit themselves to

1. Raising awareness amongst construction craftworkers and SMEs of the prevention of work accidents and work related illnesses.
2. Inform craftworkers and SMEs of the construction sector of their legal duties and responsibilities in the field of Health and Safety, as well as those of their employees.
3. Promote the exchange of good practice established in the small and medium-sized enterprises of the construction sector.

## II. PARTICULAR COMMITMENTS

EBC's member organisations commit themselves to

### 1. Designating within their organisation a "Health and Safety Advisor".

a) This advisor is to act as the health and safety contact person for the members of the organisation, undertaking initiatives to actively promote occupational health and safety throughout the organisation.

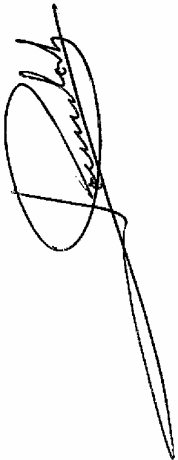
b) The advisor is responsible for the dissemination of the health and safety information to the members.

c) The advisor is responsible for answering any health and safety related questions that the members may have or, if he is unable to do so, directs them towards an information source likely to contain the answer.

### 2. Creating a web space dedicated to Health and Safety.

EBC's member organisations commit themselves to the creation on their website of a health and safety section, which may in particular contain the following information:

- a) Duties and responsibilities of craftworkers and SME managers in the field of health and safety;
- b) Useful internet links and/or contact information of organisations and professionals capable of supplying related information and/or services;

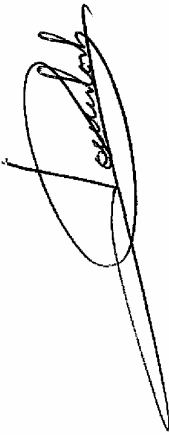


- c) Information on current initiatives, aimed at the promotion of health and safety at work, and the tools available to the enterprises (training, practical guidance, software, etc.);
- d) Information on the 'good practices' implemented by the enterprises;
- e) 'FAQ' (Frequently asked question database);
- f) Contact details of the organisations' Health and Safety Advisor.

**3. Actively disseminate Health and Safety information to the members.**

In addition to the information available on their websites, EBC's members commit themselves to:

- a) Actively informing their members via appropriate means (e-mail, post, newsletters, magazines) about their duties and responsibilities in the field of Health and Safety, as well as these of their employees.
- b) Informing their members about the risks to which family members or close friends are exposed when participating in the activity of the enterprise without being covered by an adequate insurance.
- c) Informing their members about ways to access additional information (website, Health and Safety Advisor, any further useful information).



**III. EUROPEAN COOPERATION AND FOLLOW UP TO IMPLEMENTATION**

EBC's member organisations commit themselves to

**1. The setting up of a European Working Group**

- a) EBC's member organisations commit themselves to facilitating the setting up of a network of health and safety experts, chosen amidst their organisation, and the creation of a European Working Group.
- b) The Working Group meets on a yearly basis in Brussels to:
  - Exchange ideas and examples of good practice in the field of health and safety and in particular those aimed at raising awareness of the subject.
  - Discuss problems encountered by enterprises, in particular relating to the application of the relevant

legislation and consider initiatives destined for the national and/or European Health and Safety authorities.

- Produce a common report to the EBC Board of Directors, which will outline the progress made in the implementation of this Charter and contain proposals for any new initiatives that could be undertaken by EBC to promote Health and Safety with construction craftsmen and SME.

2. **Ensure implementation of this charter via the Board of Directors.**

EBCs' Board of Directors has the responsibility of insuring the implementation of this charter and has the duty to examine the annual report produced by the Health and Safety work group.

Camogli the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Antonio Calvo Delgado', written over a light grey rectangular background.

The EBC President  
J. Antonio Calvo Delgado