

## **Abstracts (englisch)**

Ulrich Faber

### **The German occupational health and safety regulations on company level after the realisation of the European environmental guides lines**

German occupational health and safety regulations have received important impulses from the legislation of the European Union. The new direction in German health and safety law will be outlined against the background of out-dated judiciary interpretation of health and safety regulations as part of police law. The new regulations constitute an appropriate framework to cope with the rapid change in working conditions, for example caused by new technologies or new concepts of work organization. The success of the new health and safety laws depends on the acceptance of the new philosophy behind occupational health and safety law by the organizations concerned.

Ulrich Pröll

### **Prevention in the working world of handicraft and small-sized firms**

In the past, measures for the improvement of health and safety at work in the Federal Republic have had a bias on large enterprises. This resulted in a lack of specific and adequate concepts for health and safety prevention in the world of small sized firms. Based on a critical discussion of research and development in this area and some results of an empirical salutogenic analysis of the German „Handwerk“ as a preventive setting (risks and resources on the work level, local and institutional networks, practical experiences from pilot measures) the framework of a sector-specific concept of health-and-safety-promotion is drawn. It tries to integrate the elements of aims and general motivation, a basic model of internal cooperation for health and safety, instrumental needs and systems of external support.

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Hans J. Pongratz

### **Communication training**

Thesis regarding changes of a specific segment of further vocational training

Communication training techniques have developed as a relatively independent segment of further vocational training. The aim of this article is to initiate a more intense scientific debate of this specific sector of further education and to refer to relevant questions which are likely to occur. We suggest that, after a booming phase in the Eighties, the sector of communication training is now approaching a critical stage. Regular seminary participants now claim to have different demands to what is being provided so far by complacent trainers who are not sufficiently prepared for these new requirements. While the methodical-didactic development – independent from professional educational research – has come to a standstill, companies are trying to instrumentalize training for organisational purposes. There is a tendency towards an even wider and more diffused field of practice for trainers. Even if a more formal regimentation of this further educational segment appears to have little prospects, we plead for collective strategies in respect of a representation of interests on the trainer's side and for more transparency in this self dynamic development through social sciences research.

Christoph Meier

### **Research of work and interaction processes by means of video recordings**

Audiovisual media and productions play an increasingly important role in our daily life. Nevertheless, the opportunities and implications involved in making audiovisual records the basis of social scientific research have so far been largely ignored. Established forms of data and research fall short whenever the aim is to describe and analyze ephemeral processes of association - be they work related or not. In this paper, a research strategy based on audiovisual records is argued for. This replaces post-facto reconstructions with in video documentation and thus opens up new ways of analysis. It is proposed that this approach has to be combined with an analytic strategy whose categories are based on whatever is relevant to the participants involved in the interactions themselves. Pursuing such a strategy, however, new issues relating to methods and technical realization emerge that have to be dealt with. These issues are discussed and described by reporting on two case studies of telecooperation solutions for the more technical problems.