

Abstract: Health and safety at work

The topic of the diploma thesis is Health and safety at work (HSW). The topic has been chosen for its importance and topicality. The diploma thesis is structured into eight chapters.

The first chapter gives a characterization of HSW. Safe and healthy working conditions are protecting employees and other people against harm to their health and safety. Ensuring of HSW is significant to employees, employers and society in general.

The second chapter describes the history of HSW.

The third chapter deals with the main legislation provided for the health and safety of people in the workplace. There are also described international organizations and their legal provisions in connection with HSW.

The fourth chapter discusses the rights and obligations of both employers and employees. Employers have the primary responsibility for ensuring HSW. On the other hand, employees have to take reasonable care to protect their health and safety and the health and safety of other people in the workplace. Employers have a duty to cooperate with employees, or their representatives, on health and safety matters. There are also described rights of trade unions and representatives of employees in HSW.

The fifth chapter describes further conditions for ensuring HSW.

The sixth chapter discusses the principle of prevention. The principle of prevention includes preparatory measures to eliminate or minimise risks arising from work. It is the main principle in HSW. In the sixth chapter is also included a health monitoring that involves testing of the health of workers to identify potential signs of possible harm to their health.

In the seventh chapter there are described work-related injuries and long term illnesses.

The last chapter of my diploma thesis deals with the health and safety authority.