

More than ever, Secura proves its ‘raison d’être’

Secura 2017: embedded in what drives businesses in Belgium

Personnel safety prevails

Antwerp, November 20, 2016 – On March 22 & 23, 2017, the 11th edition of the professional trade fair Secura takes place, the largest event on Health, Safety and Security in Belgium. In the wake of this trade fair, event organiser Easyfairs sent a survey invitation to an extensive group of over 12,000 Belgian businesses, in order to gauge their concerns and plans regarding Health & Safety, Security and Fire Protection.

Marketing Event Manager, Wim Kegelaers: “The response, with 1230 respondents, was great, which proves that Secura’s focus is totally on-topic. To us, this survey is the perfect starting point for an additional programme on themes that really matter today, creating true added value for the fair.”

The survey’s results show that, regarding Health & Safety, evacuation exercises and risk analysis are two of the most disconcerting themes. On the topic of Security, the internal emergency plan and installing cameras top the ranks of important concerns. In the context of Fire Protection, most questions rise on themes such as the new Royal Decree and evacuation exercises.

HR is priority in health and safety

Evacuation drills might be obligatory, it is also the topic most businesses have questions about (39%), closely followed by drawing up a risk analysis (35%). The increasingly ageing society and related specifics are also mentioned regularly. To 30% of the respondents, aligning the work station to the employee’s age is an important theme within their organisation.

Wim Kegelaers: “Interesting as well is that subjects related to human resources score extremely high. Risk analysis and working safely remain important focus points, however, an increasing number of Belgian businesses today are looking for ways to efficiently manage phenomena such as burn-out, stress, alcohol and drug abuse, long term sick leave, the ageing society...”

Extra focus on employees' safety

Regarding security, the focus seems to be on the safety of employees. Drawing up and rehearsing the internal emergency plan, with 35%, is the most important topic. Installing cameras, food for discussion for years now, today still is hot: 31% of the respondents has questions regarding this theme, 22% would like to know more on the real impact of the new legislation on this matter. The survey also shows that at times, tension on the work floor can be high. About 28% of the respondents looks for ways to limit workplace aggression.

Terror threat top of mind

The acute terror threat unleashed quite some reaction, also in the corporate world. However, only 13% of the respondents would like more clarity on procedures and techniques in case of a terrorist attack.

Wim Kegelaers: "We do have to evaluate this score within its correct context. The survey shows that 18% already took measures, 8% have planned to do so and 13% at this moment is conducting an in-depth analysis of options to safeguard themselves against an attack (and its possible aftermath). One out of ten organisations indicates that they monitor in-house personnel and actively look for ways to set up anti-radicalisation projects."

New legislation raises questions

The new Royal Decree of May 20, 2016, on the protection of the health and safety of employees against the risks of electromagnetic fields at work, seems to be most important (41%) in the domain of Fire Protection – which should come as no surprise, since the introduction of new legislations always causes some concern. Also, 22% of the respondents would like to know more on the precise impact of the obligations stated in this Royal Decree. Another main theme within the field of Fire Protection, is safety of personnel: with 38%, evacuation drills are the second most important issue to come out of the results. Other crucial themes seem to be firefighting with small extinguishers (20%) EN54-13 (19%).

Most important investments regarding wellbeing at work and security

The main conclusion is that safeguarding the safety of the personnel is pivotal throughout the safety and security approach of most Belgian businesses. Next year, the largest bulk of planned investments in this domain is allocated to training and consultancy (38%) and to personal protective equipment (33%). Another priority: avoid people and assets running the risk of fire damage. In 2017, 36% of the respondents intends to continue to invest in fire prevention and fire protection. The growing level of awareness about the positive effect of a comfortable and ergonomically sound work environment has a positive impact on the workforce's motivation levels and safety. No less than 30% of businesses is already taking actions in that field. Electronic security with surveillance cameras, burglary detection, badges, access control... is the last of the top 5 with 26% of planned investments.

Full service conferences

Based on the results of this survey, Secura, in collaboration with its strategic partners, composed the conference programme. That way, the trade fair tackles themes that are high on the list of priorities in the market itself. To ensure participants can take part in a nice atmosphere, attending these information sessions are not free of charge, and scheduled per half day.

Wim Kegelaers: "This formula offers many advantages. A tasty lunch and refreshments will be served, and participants will have ample of networking moments, or share their thoughts via the 'Meet & Share' on the floor of the trade fair. For most conferences, a certificate will be provided as well."

Are these topics causing discussions within your organisation? Be sure to come and see Secura on March 22 and 23, 2017.

What? Secura 2017

Where? Brussels Expo

When? 22nd and 23rd of March 2017

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Information about Artexis Easyfairs

Artexis Easyfairs enables communities to “visit the future” at must-attend events that anticipate their needs and present solutions in the ideal format.

Through **Easyfairs**, the Group currently organises more than 200 events in 19 countries (Algeria, Austria, Belgium, China, Denmark, Emirates, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States).

In the Benelux, these events include Antica, Antwerp Convention, Art Brussels, Autonomies, Bakkersvak, Batireno, Bis, Belgian Boat Show, Bois & Habitat, Bouw & Reno, Bultly, CARAT+, Countryside+, Dentex, Dutch Comic Con, Empack, Energie & Habitat, Eurantica, FACTS, Green Expo, Health & Care, Horeca Expo, Inside Out, Maintenance, Packaging Innovations, Pumps & Valves, Realty, Saveurs & Métiers, Second Home, Secura, Spring@Countryside, Soins & Santé, Solids, Transport & Logistics, Welding week, Wonen ...

And through **Artexis**, the Group manages 11 events venues in the Benelux and Nordic regions. In Benelux, these include: Flanders Expo, Antwerp Expo and Namur Expo; the Palais des Congrès (Namur); the Nekkerhal - Brussels North (Mechelen), MICX - Mons International Congress Experience, Evenementenhal Hardenberg, Gorinchem & Venray.

Artexis Easyfairs strives to be the most adaptable, agile and effective player in the events industry by employing committed individuals, deploying the best marketing and technology tools, and developing strong brands. The Group employs more than 700 people and expects to generate revenues in excess of €169 million for its financial year 2016-2017. Visit the future with Artexis Easyfairs.

For more information, visit our website www.easyfairs.com