



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION

Working Conditions and Social Dialogue  
Health and Safety at Work, EU-OSHA

Luxembourg  
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## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

**Subject: Study on collecting the most recent information on substances to analyse health, socio-economic and environmental impacts in connection with possible amendments of Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens, mutagens or reprotoxic substances at work**

**(Contract Number VC/2022/0140)**

The European Commission is financing a study to carry out a detailed analysis of scientific and technical data and the socio-economic information for five substances/substance groups:

- Welding fume;
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons;
- Cobalt and inorganic cobalt compounds;
- Isoprene; and
- 1,4-dioxane.

This information will support the European Commission in the preparation of an impact assessment report necessary to accompany a draft legislative proposal to amend Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens, mutagens or reprotoxic substances at work.

This involves describing and assessing the baseline scenario. For welding, it also involves describing the impacts of introducing welding fume into Annex I of the directive. For the other four substances/substances groups, this also involves describing the impacts of introducing new Occupational Exposure Limits (OELs) and where relevant Biological Limit Values (BLVs), Short-Term Exposure Limits (STELs) and notations for these substances/substance groups.

This study involves the collection of information from key stakeholders across 27 European countries through questionnaires, interviews and site visits.

A consortium comprising Risk & Policy Analysts (RPA), RPA Europe, RPA Prague, COWI, FoBiG, EPRD and Force Technology has been appointed to carry out the study.

I would be grateful for any assistance that you can provide to the consortium as they collect information and data to inform the analysis in this study. All queries about this study should, in the first instance, be addressed to RPA's project manager Sophie Garrett (sophie.garrett@rpald.co.uk).

Should additional information be required, you may wish to contact the responsible officer in the Employment, Social Affairs, and Inclusion Directorate-General, Mr William Tailleur (William.Tailleur@ec.europa.eu).

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Your sincerely,

Charlotte GREVFORS ERNOULT  
Head of Unit