

OPEL's Occupational Health Service (OHS) is determined to develop a culture of prevention amongst its permanent staff (from management to individual workers) and external providers. OPEL is a firm supporter of WHP measures.

WHP measures relate not only to the area of prevention (safety, hygiene, ergonomics and occupational health) but also to health promotion and quality of life. This incorporates social and health related services, drugs and gambling addiction programmes, immunisation plans and chronic disease surveillance...

As established under Law 31/1995 (Spanish transposition of the Council Directive 89/391/EEC) occupational health and safety should be integrated in business activities and workers should actively participate in its implementation. In relation to this point, OPEL has incorporated the CRUZ VERDE (Green Cross) as a means of improving the culture of prevention and promoting worker participation.

The Green Cross

Production teams consisting of 8-12 workers have outlined goals which should be achieved each year.

A Green Cross shaped calendar has been created, where incident free days are coloured green, health problems and injuries which do not require a day off work are marked in yellow and occupational injuries in red. Each incident is commented on in group meetings and suggestions are made to avoid such events in the future. In 1998, 8,053 proposals were made and 62% of these were implemented.

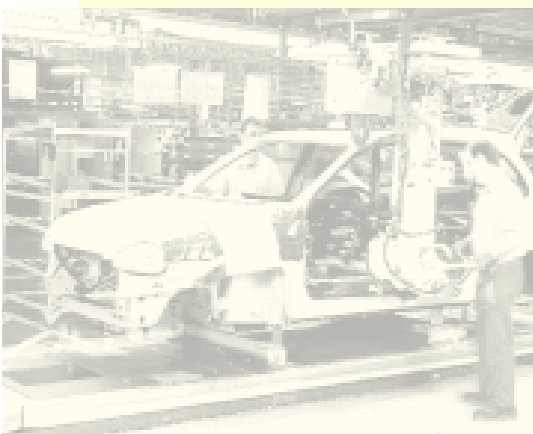
A tool to enhance occupational health and safety culture and promote worker's participation

The Green Cross helps to evaluate the results of WHP measures and to underline the importance of

preventative health measures for the organisation. It also promotes active worker participation not only in monitoring working conditions but in submitting solutions and in enhancing their awareness of these topics.

Successful co-operation

The Green Cross is a good example of successful collaboration between the company, the insurance company (FREMAP) and autonomous and national administration. The project's main goal is to increase awareness of WHP tools amongst OPEL providers (mainly small and medium sized enterprises) through occupational health and safety training programmes.



Branch:

Manufacture of motor vehicles

No. of employees:

8.998

Products/Services:

Cars

Locations:

Figuer elas (Zaragoza)

Miscellaneous:

85% of the employees work shifts;
13.4% of the employees are
disabled