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News from the Member Federations | General CoESS news

SNES-USP (French CoESS members) - new private security quality label



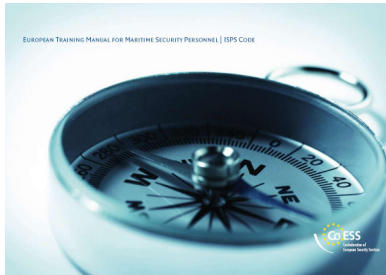
In 2009 a new quality label for private security services will be launched entitled 'Quali-Sécurité', fulfilling the direct demand of clients and buyers as expressed during the SNES-USP Convention (March 7, 2008) for objective qualitative criteria to evaluate the quality of private security services.

➔ Source: SNES | August 1, 2008

➔ For further information, please consult the SNES website (French): http://www.e-snes.org/TLN/TLN_4.htm.

News from the CoESS Working Committees

European Training Manual for Maritime Security Personnel - ISPS Code



The CoESS Working Committee Maritime Security is proud to announce the publication of its manual entitled 'European Training Manual for Maritime Security Personnel - ISPS Code'. The International Maritime Organisation (IMO), responsible for the safety of the shipping industry in general, issued a number of obligatory regulations and recommendations that constitute a framework within which maritime safety can be improved considerably. These regulations and recommendations are documented in an international agreement, i.e. the International Treaty for the Safety of Lives at Sea (SOLAS) and the accompanying Code, i.e. the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code or ISPS Code. The ISPS Code contains detailed security-related requirements for governments, port authorities and shipping companies. It is intended to enable better monitoring of freight flows, to combat smuggling

and to respond adequately to the threat of terrorist attacks. The CoESS Working Committee Maritime Security's European Training Manual is the ideal tool to provide port facility security personnel with the specialist education they need in order to ensure they are fully compliant with the ISPS Code. The CoESS Board of Directors and the CoESS General Secretariat would hereby like to express its appreciation and thanks to the project team for the completion of this first and crucial building block.

- ➔ The Manual can be downloaded from the CoESS website: <http://www.coess.eu/pdf/COESS-ISPSmanual.pdf>.
- ➔ For further information on SOLAS and the ISPS Code, please consult the IMO website: <http://www.imo.org>.

News from ASSA-I (Aviation Security Services Association International)

US to screen foreign air passengers



Washington is set to electronically collect data on all European visitors who currently enjoy visa-free travel to the United States. An online registration system, first kicking-in on a voluntary basis, will ask for a number of personal data, including on health. The Electronic System of Travel Authorisation (ESTA) is designed to track high-risk passengers and was officially launched on August 1, 2008.

- ➔ Source: EUBusiness | July 29, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EUBusiness website: <http://www.eubusiness.com/news-eu/1217251022.43>.

Aviation security rules: European Commission to increase transparency

The majority of rules relating to aviation security will be made available to the public, the European Commission decided on August 8, 2008. The publication of the EU list of prohibited articles will make it easier for passengers to know what they can - and cannot - take on board an aircraft, while it increases transparency of EU rules in this domain. This decision does not change the existing legislation relating to aviation security. Rather, the primary aim is to place a significant proportion of the rules - which have until now not been officially published - into the public domain, whilst not compromising aviation security.

- ➔ Source: European Commission | August 8, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/08/1253&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

New rules facilitate transfer of airline passengers travelling from Croatia at EU airports

On August 8, 2008 the European Commission adopted a regulation allowing air passengers arriving from six Croatian airports and transferring at an EU airport to take liquids, aerosols and gels on board their connecting flights.

When changing planes in the EU, these passengers will no longer be obliged to abandon such items carried in their cabin baggage if bought at the following Croatian airports: Dubrovnik (DBV), Rijeka (RJK), Pula (PUY), Split (SPU), Zadar (ZAD) and Zagreb (ZAG).

- Source: European Commission | August 8, 2008
- For further information, please consult the European Commission website:
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/08/1254&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

News from the European Union

Euro area inflation breaks new record

Inflation in the 15-strong Euro area reached a new record of 4.1 percent, twice as much as the monetary goal of the European Central Bank (ECB), leaving its Frankfurt-based decision-makers in a dilemma over the next interest rates move.

- Source: Eurostat | August 1, 2008
- For further information, please consult the Eurostat website:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/PGP_PRD_CAT_PREREL/PGE_CAT_PREREL_YEAR_2008/PGE_CAT_PREREL_YEAR_2008_MONTH_07/2-31072008-EN-AP.PDF.

Secret EU report moots sharing personal data with US



A secret report prepared by experts from six EU Member States suggests creating an anti-terrorist pact with Washington which would include sharing intelligence across the 27-strong bloc. The 53-page report drafted by the Interior and Justice Ministers from Germany, France, Sweden, Portugal, Slovenia and the Czech Republic argues that the stronger link with the US is needed to boost the fight against terrorism. The new initiative is dubbed as 'Euro-Atlantic area of cooperation' and should involve the transfer of huge amounts of information on EU citizens and travellers to the US. Negotiations over such a pact have so far been unsuccessful due to privacy concerns in some European countries and institutions, but the new report suggests that it should be finalised by 2014 at the latest.

- Source: The Guardian | August 7, 2008
- For further information, please consult The Guardian website: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/aug/07/eu.uksecurity>.

EU keeps ticking without Lisbon Treaty, report says



Europe continues to work without the Lisbon Treaty and the demise of the document would not be a catastrophe for the bloc, an influential think tank said. In an assessment of Ireland's referendum rejection of the EU Treaty published on August 7, 2008, the London-based Centre for European Reform concludes that "Europe works fairly well in many areas with the current treaties."

- Source: EUobserver | August 8, 2008
- For further information, please consult the Centre for European Reform website:
http://www.cer.org.uk/articles/61_grant.html.

Combating cash-in-transit crime continues to reduce attacks

The latest figures from the British Security Industry Association (BSIA), member of CoESS, show that the proactive partnership work between the Home Office, Police, the GMB trade union, and the banking, retail and security industries to reduce cash-in-transit crime is continuing to bring results.

The number of attacks against cash-in-transit couriers has reduced by 29% in the first six months of 2008 compared to the same period the previous year and overall there has been a 20% decrease in the number of attacks since the partnership initiative commenced in June last year.

- Source: BSIA | August 13, 2008
- For further information, please consult the BSIA website: http://www.bsia.co.uk/LY8WLW49550_itemid;N72HEY26079_backlinktype;home_action;displayitem.

Euro area annual inflation stable at 4.0% - EU up to 4.4%

Euro area annual inflation was 4.0% in July 2008, unchanged compared with June 2008. A year earlier, the rate was 1.8%. Monthly inflation was -0.2% in July 2008. EU annual inflation was 4.4% in July 2008, up from 4.3% in June 2008. A year earlier, the rate was 2.0%. Monthly inflation was -0.1% in July 2008.

- Source: Eurostat | August 14, 2008
- For further information, please consult the Eurostat website: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/PGP_PRD_CAT_PREREL/PGE_CAT_PREREL_YEAR_2008/PGE_CAT_PREREL_YEAR_2008_MONTH_08/2-14082008-EN-BP.PDF.

Eurozone swings closer to economic recession



The Eurozone's economy has slipped further towards recession, with fresh output figures pointing to an economic downturn in the 15-strong zone as well as in the whole of the European Union, while inflation remains at a record high. According to early predictions by Eurostat, the EU's statistical office, gross domestic product (GDP) in the Euro area dropped by 0.2 percent during the second quarter of 2008. This makes it the very first time that the monetary bloc's economy declined since the launch of the Euro.

- Source: EUobserver | August 15, 2008
- For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/9/26608/?rk=1>.

Security Fair 'World Forum for Security and Fire Protection'

From October 7-10, 2008 the Security Fair 'World Forum for Security and Fire Protection' will take place in Essen, Germany. Just as in previous years, the German Association of Security Services (BDWS), member of CoESS, will welcome its guests on the exhibition stand in hall 11.0, stand 106. The most important topics transported by BDWS in 2008 will be the need for the introduction of a minimum wage for private security services by the German government and the new certification for security schools. Also, the new brochures for aviation services, electronic surveillance and qualification will be presented. As usual, the BDWS stand will be the meeting point for the private security industry.

- Source: BDWS | August 18, 2008
- For further information, please consult the Security Fair website: <http://www.security-messe.de/?lang=en>.

Aland Islands could reject Lisbon Treaty



The Parliament of Finland's autonomous Aland Islands is weighing up whether to vote for or against the EU's Reform Treaty, which was already ratified by Helsinki. Rejection would put Finland in the awkward situation of not being able to guarantee the implementation of the Treaty throughout the whole of its territory.

- Source: EurActiv | August 19, 2008
- For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/future-eu/aland-islands-reject-lisbon-treaty/article-174754>.

Slovak mint starts production of Euro coins



Slovakia's mint has started manufacturing Euro coins as the country prepares to join the 15-strong monetary union on January 1, 2009. Some 500 million coins began to be produced at a speed of 750 coins per minute at the Mint in Kremnica on August 19, 2008 in a run to last till the end of the year.

- ➔ Source: Reuters | August 20, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Reuters website: <http://www.reuters.com/article/lifestyleMolt/idUSLJ61447320080819>.

Wage gap is narrowing in Europe, reveals new data

While 'new' Europe is continuing to close the wage gap with the older members of the EU club, women still suffer from wage discrimination across the Union, according to data published by the EU agency Eurofound on August 20, 2008. On average, wages have increased four times more in the new EU Member States than in the EU 15. The Baltic States, Bulgaria and Romania top the ranking with rises reaching double figures, the report shows.

- ➔ Source: Eurofound | August 20, 2008
- ➔ To review the Eurofound report, please consult the Eurofound website: <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/press/releases/2008/080821.htm>.

Eastern European workers in Britain at record low



The number of job seekers from Central and Eastern Europe in Britain has fallen to its lowest level since post-communist countries joined the European Union in May 2004, according to fresh figures published by the UK's Home Office on August 21, 2008. The UK was one of three Western European States which opened its labour market to the newcomers straight after they became EU citizens, along with Ireland and Sweden, with the initial number of workers flowing in hugely exceeding government predictions.

- ➔ Source: Financial Times | August 21, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Financial Times website: http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/0da7c920-6f8b-11dd-986f-0000779fd18c.html?nclick_check=1 and the UK's Home Office website: <http://press.homeoffice.gov.uk/press-releases/Migration-At-All-time-Low>.

Irish NERA private security campaign

The Irish Security Industry Association (ISIA) reports that the National Employment Rights Authority (NERA) completed its 2008 targeted sectoral campaign vis-à-vis the Irish private security industry, which was initiated earlier this year during February and March 2008. The campaign was conducted nationwide and a total of 122 calls/visits/inspections were carried out.

- ➔ Source: ISIA | August 22, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the ISIA website: http://www.isia.ie/isia/Main/2008_Nera_update.htm.

Sarkozy calls crisis EU summit on Georgia, Russia

European Union leaders will meet in Brussels on September 1, 2008 for an extraordinary summit to review their relationship with Moscow after the crisis in Georgia revived East-West tensions reminiscent of the Cold War era.

In a statement, French President Nicolas Sarkozy said the meeting would be devoted to “the course of action that the European Union intends to take in terms of aid to Georgia and its future relations with Russia”.

- ➔ Source: French Presidency of the Council of the European Union | August 24, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the French Presidency website: http://www.ue2008.fr/PFUE/cache/offonce/lang/en/accueil/PFUE-08_2008/PFUE-24.08.2008/pid/8103;jsessionid=6BB1B0CE93AC41678C47A420DCD16B96 and the BBC News website: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7579506.stm>.

Austria signals referendum on Turkey’s EU accession

It appears that Ankara will have to face another hurdle on its path to EU membership as Turkey-critical Austria pledged to put the issue to a public vote if the Union agrees to accept Turkey’s bid to join the bloc. “Coalition parties have agreed to go for a referendum if Turkey’s accession talks are concluded in favour of a decision to prepare a membership agreement,” Austria’s Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik told the German daily Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung on August 23, 2008.

- ➔ Source: EurActiv | August 25, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/enlargement/austria-signals-referendum-turkey-eu-accession/article-174868>.

Ireland opens debate on Lisbon Treaty revote

A second referendum on the Lisbon Treaty would ‘ultimately’ be required in Ireland to prevent its isolation now that all other 26 Member States appear likely to ratify it, the country’s Minister of State for European Affairs, Dick Roche, stated. The views expressed by the Irish Minister appear to be significant, particularly as politicians in Ireland and in the EU have been careful not to be seen to be imposing a revote as a solution to the crisis that emerged after Irish voters rejected the new EU Treaty in the June 12, 2008 referendum.

- ➔ Source: Irish Times | August 25, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Irish Times website: <http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2008/0825/1219613973015.html>.

Danish votes off

Denmark has postponed a referendum on its four opt-outs from the EU. Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the Danish Prime Minister, announced the change of plan on August 11, 2008, citing the Irish ‘No’ vote against the Lisbon Treaty. Rasmussen’s liberal party still hopes to scrape the opt-outs, on the single currency, EU defence, citizenship and justice and home affairs policy, before the next general election in 2011.

- ➔ Source: European Voice | August 28, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the BBC News website: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7138138.stm>.

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