



enhesa 2004 global forecast

*environmental, health & safety policy
and regulatory developments impacting industry*



environmental policy centre

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The report "ENHESA 2004 Global Forecast of Environmental, Health & Safety Policy and Regulatory Developments Impacting Industry" exists in two versions: a stand-alone report and report integrated with more than 3500 regulatory abstracts. The stand-alone report is distributed for free. The report with links to the regulatory abstracts is available as part of a subscription to the EPC-Update. The EPC-Update provides monthly abstracts of new EHS regulatory and policy developments worldwide, with an option to get further details and analysis. Contact ENHESA for subscription details.

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ENHESA - Environmental Policy Centre is a global environmental, health and safety (EHS) policy and regulatory consulting group. EHS issues, notably in the context of sustainability and corporate social responsibility constitute a growing concern to multinational companies, particularly in light of the substantial increase in regulation worldwide. ENHESA's mission is to assist multinational companies in identifying the current and pending regulatory requirements they have to comply with and assist them to ensure continuous compliance in a practical and cost-effective manner. ENHESA - Environmental Policy Centre (EPC) was initially created by LAW Engineering & Environmental Services in 1989 under the leadership of the former U.S. EPA Administrator, Lee Thomas. ENHESA-EPC has evolved into the world leader in assisting multinational companies to ensure ongoing compliance with EHS regulatory requirements worldwide.

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introduction

The analysis of nearly one thousand environmental, health and safety regulatory initiatives taken in 2002 in more than 40 countries indicates that industry should prepare for more stringent requirements with regard to management of dangerous chemicals, global climate change and worker health and safety.

This is the conclusion of the annual research carried out by ENHESA - Environmental Policy Centre (EPC). The research, entitled "2004 Global Forecast of Environmental Health and Safety Policy and Regulatory Developments Impacting Industry", aims at identifying the issues that multinational companies need to focus on in the coming years in order to stay ahead of the regulatory curve and ensure continual compliance in a manner that strengthens business. It follows a similar research report issued in 2002.

The research involved screening of more than 2,000 regulatory initiatives that occurred in 2002 in 42 countries on 4 continents. The screening allowed the identification of 865 regulatory initiatives with regard to environment and occupational health and safety that have an impact on industry in general. A detailed analysis of these 865 regulatory initiatives against the existing regulatory framework and current industry practice revealed ten priority issues that ENHESA believes will have significant implications for international industry over the coming year or longer. Multinational companies wishing to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements in a way that fosters business growth are recommended to take proactive measures with regard to these issues.

The research also revealed that 67% of all new regulations in 2002 were adopted in Europe. The Asia-Pacific region follows with 18%, South America with 11% and North America with 6%. Compared to 2001, there were less new regulations in South America which dropped from 15% to 11%. Worldwide 55% of the issues dealt with environmental issues and 45% with occupational health and safety. In 2001 this was the other way round.

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