



RECOMMENDED

What does a flamingo have to do with listening ...

PAGE 4

TOP STORY

From blackboard to tablet

Working safely and healthily with digital media – the new Digital Pact helps foster well-rounded schools

Faster Internet and new tablet computers in the classroom are being made possible by the School Digital Pact adopted by the Federal and State Governments. The German social accident insurance institutions welcome the programme. However, they point out that issues related to safety and health must also be taken into consideration when using digital media. This concerns areas such as ergonomics, mental health and media literacy.

Whether smartboard, tablet or smartphone – the School Digital Pact opens up new educational opportunities for schools. When teachers think about how to use new devices in the classroom, they should also think about safety and health issues. This is the recommendation of experts from the German social accident insurance institutions responsible for the education sector. ‘Healthy learning means better learning’, said Professor Joachim Breuer, Director General of the DGUV. ‘When students talk to their teachers about the right way and the wrong way to use digital media, it’s not only their learning that benefits. These considerations also prepare them for a world of work in which health literacy plays an increasingly important role.’

Examples of specific recommendations can be found in ergonomics: if digital media are used in teaching, they must meet the basic requirements for VDU workstations. Displays should be at least 10 inches large, and at least 15 inches or larger for longer reading or text input. Smartphones are unsuitable for longer periods of reading or entering text. For this reason, smartphones should not be used for more than five minutes at a time.

As well as ergonomics, the focus is also on mental health. Teachers have a key part to play here. In addition to technical and pedagogical expertise, they also need to understand and manage the



Photo: contrastwerkstatt – stock.adobe.com

Expertise in working with VDUs – the German Social Accident Insurance provides recommendations for the safe and healthy use of digital media in schools.

risks posed by digital media. In order to avoid digital sensory overload, teaching should consist of a healthy mix. Longer learning phases with digital media should alternate with other forms of learning, as well as rest breaks and exercise. Overall, time spent learning with digital media should not exceed one third of the teaching day. ‘In order for schoolchildren to learn to interact safely and responsibly with digital media, schools should develop a digital media concept’, recommends Professor Breuer. Safe and healthy use of digital media is best achieved when everyone – teachers, pupils and parents – think about it together, right from the very start.

Web: www.dguv.de › **Webcode dp1316499**
 (German only)

STICHWORT
Advice

The German social accident insurance institutions advise educational institutions on safety and health issues, including the use of digital media. A ‘School Sectoral Rule’ and additional information are currently being worked on in conjunction with the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs.



Photo: DGUV

A thirst for change

Dear Reader,

Technological developments continue to drive economic change. Transformation is taking place at different speeds.

What interests me here is: How does successful change management work around the world? Who starts where, why and how? There were some fascinating answers to these questions at the 12th China Symposium of the German-Chinese Society of Medicine. The theme of the symposium was German-Chinese cooperation in the healthcare sector. One thing is certain: China's top medical care currently offers far better service, diagnostics, therapy and care. Germany must be careful not to fall behind.

Given the dynamic nature of this development, resignation is not an option. That's why we need one thing first and foremost: a desire for change. However, this is not possible without goals. The BG clinics of the German social accident insurance system want to become Number 1 in Germany when it comes to digitalisation. That's a bold statement and sends a clear message for the direction of digital healthcare.

I would like to say one more thing on my own behalf. After 17 years as Director General of the DGUV, I am attracted by the thirst for change too. I am stepping down from office and am looking forward to becoming increasingly involved internationally in healthy and safe work in the future. In a world that is becoming increasingly globalised, my goal is to work together to develop sustainable solutions that transcend national borders.

Professor Joachim Breuer
Director General of the DGUV

'Be flexible and break new ground'

Professor Joachim Breuer has been Director General of the DGUV since 2002. He will step down from this position on 1st July 2019. However, he will continue his commitment to social protection in his roles as Professor at the University of Lübeck and as President of the International Social Security Association (ISSA). DGUV Kompakt spoke with Professor Breuer about global developments and relationships, about changes needed and established principles.

Professor Breuer, let us start with a very current issue: Given the developments in digitalisation and new forms of work, policymakers are discussing the social security of the self-employed. This is also an issue for social accident insurance. Is it time to get to the point?

The German Social Accident Insurance didn't raise the issue, neither did I. It is simply the result of economic developments. In other countries, there has already been a reaction and insurance cover has either been extended to the self-employed or it had already existed. In Germany, when it comes to insurance cover for new, non-standard employment relationships, we are certainly not pioneers, but rather the ones who are still thinking hard about it. That's what you have to do, especially if we are talking about getting down to the point. I believe that we are doing quite well, but the same principle applies here too: economic development happens fast and we can't address this with slow answers.

As President of the ISSA, you also have an overview of the global situation. How are other countries and social security branches affected by this issue?

All social security branches around the world are affected by these new forms of work. But in different ways. We first have to acknowledge that the majority of the world's people have no social protection at all, or only rudimentary one. For these economies, new forms of work are a further development of what is called the informal sector. It is simply growing. If new forms of work are not integrated into social protection, then we run the risk of large sections of the economy suddenly being relocated to an area where, once again, there are no tax regulations, no social protection and

no occupational safety and health regulations. I believe that this is one of the major risks to social security systems which have arisen as a result of economic upheavals. This applies equally to all branches of social security, whether it be accident insurance, pension insurance, or health and long-term care insurance.

Following the tragedy at Rana Plaza, the German Social Accident Insurance, in cooperation with the German government, helped with the establishment of an accident insurance system in Bangladesh. Can you tell us what your verdict is?

This may sound surprising to some, but I think we've made a lot of progress. A country like Bangladesh cannot be measured against the same standards as Germany. After the accident, a compensation fund was set up there for the first time. After five years, you cannot expect there to be a fully functioning system in such a large country. We have made enormous progress in raising awareness locally, in creating the very first small structures. This is sowing the seeds for further developments – and our work is still ongoing!

Looking back at Germany, one of the issues you have raised is the reform of the occupational disease legislation. Where do we stand today?

10 years ago, we started discussing what could be changed in occupational disease legislation. At first, there was no internal consensus, but in the end we reached agreement and a White Paper was published in 2016. After that, of course, there was a great expectation that this would now be transposed verbatim into national law. I believe that the political will to do something is still there. However, understandably, I also be-



Photo: DGUV

Thirst for change: After 17 years at the helm of the DGUV as Director General, Professor Breuer is looking for new challenges. In future, he wants to become more involved in healthy and safe workplaces at international level.

lieve that there are still unanswered questions. I am firmly convinced that in this legislative period we will see a draft law that will adopt the content of our White Paper. The greatest risk I see in the moment is the duration of the current legislative period.

After 17 years at the helm of Germany's social accident insurance system, how much does it need to change? Which principles does it have to remain true to?

The basic principle that everything that has to do with work and results from work is completely covered under one roof, at all stages, is one of the core principles that we have in social accident insurance. This also includes self-governance. This guarantee, despite all government regulation, gives a certain detachment from the state; that is, a sense of responsibility towards the people who are in this system. This is more than just 'stakeholder representation'; it is really about 'stakeholder responsibility'. In addition, we will not abandon these core responsibilities as long as there

'We must do what we have done for over 135 years: be flexible and break new ground, even if this means shattering some 'sacred traditions''

Professor Joachim Breuer

is statutory accident insurance in the traditional sense. In all other areas of shaping these basic principles, we must do what we have done for over 135 years: be flexible and break new ground, even if this means shattering some 'sacred traditions', whether these are new forms of benefits, new groups of insured persons or new approaches to prevention. As long as this fits into the core areas mentioned, I'm not worried about social accident insurance. I believe that, over the coming years and decades, we have an enormous opportunity to demonstrate that social accident insurance is highly flexible and is therefore in a good position for the future.

TOPIC

Use of stand-up E-scooters

On 17 May 2019, the German Bundesrat approved the Federal Government's ordinance governing the use of mini electric vehicles with a number of amendments. An important change to the original version: E-scooters are not allowed to be driven on footpaths. The German Social Accident Insurance had also voiced its support for this restriction.

New forms of mobility always require a balance to be struck between encouraging innovation and road safety. The Bundesrat has made it very clear that new forms of mobility must not be introduced at the expense of road safety and 'Vision Zero'.

Now that the regulation has been approved, the way has been cleared for the use of electric scooters with a maximum speed of up to 20 km/h; however, not on footpaths. These should remain a safe and secure space. This applies in particular to vulnerable road users such as children, the elderly and people with disabilities. The German Social Accident Insurance therefore warmly welcomes the fact that e-scooters may not be used on pavements. This is because even 12 km/h, as originally proposed, would have meant doubling the maximum speed permitted on footpaths. This would have significantly reduced reaction times in dangerous situations and increased the risk of accidents.

A minimum age of 14 years has been set for using an e-scooter. The German Social Accident Insurance had advocated that persons under the age of 15 should not drive electric scooters up to 20 km/h. Around 100,000 accidents occur every year on the way to school, the costs of which are borne by the accident insurance institutions. Many of these accidents are minor, but the statistics show that this changes with increasing motorisation. From the point of view of the German Social Accident Insurance, it would also have been desirable to have mandatory training in the form of a moped driving licence.

Web: www.dguv.de › Webcode dp1316614 (German only)

RECOMMENDED

What does a flamingo have to do with listening?

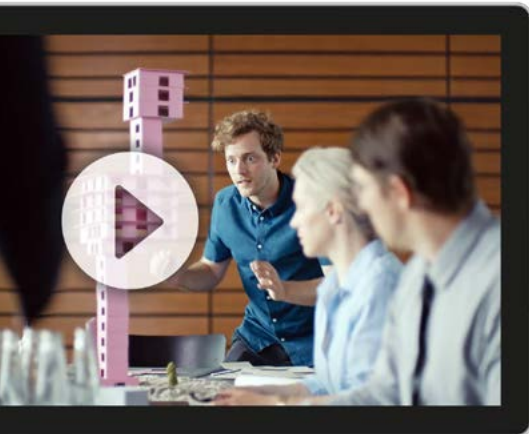


Photo: DGUV

The 'Flamingo' video is designed to get people thinking and encourage them to listen better – one of the goals of the **kommmitmensch** prevention campaign.

Building a skyscraper on sand? Not a good idea. A head planner experiences this first hand in the new social media clip released as part of the **kommmitmensch** prevention campaign run by the DGUV and the German social accident insurance intuitions. He doesn't listen to his work colleagues – with fatal consequences. The planned office tower, graceful as a flamingo, collapses, fortunately only as a model. The video makes it clear how important participation is in companies. Involving employees in decision-making promotes a culture of prevention and a holistic approach. 'Listen carefully to one other. This is particularly important for safety-related issues within the company', says Gregor Doepke, Head of Communications at the German Social Accident Insurance. This is the message behind the 'Flamingo' video clip by filmmaker Isa Prahl, who is also responsible for the other videos in the campaign.

Web: www.kommmitmensch.de

NEWS IN BRIEF

Integrating artificial intelligence into work processes

Artificial intelligence in companies isn't science fiction anymore, it's reality. But what effects do artificial intelligence and 4.0 technologies have on areas such as work organisation, the working climate or occupational safety and health? How can artificial intelligence be used to improve the design of work? In order to identify the potentials and risks of Work 4.0 processes, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) has launched a collaborative project called 'Prevention 4.0'. Practical implementation tools have now been made available. They are particularly beneficial to small and medium-sized enterprises in terms of information and inspiration on how to make Work 4.0 productive and healthy. In specific terms, they deal with



Photo: Laurent – stock.adobe.com

Artificial intelligence is changing the world of work. This calls for new ways of thinking and new strategies for safety and health.

artificial intelligence in the areas of strategy, corporate management and culture, work organisation, and safety and health. They also address fundamental topics such as ethical questions and the interaction between humans and intelligent software.

Web: www.praeventive-arbeit40.de

IMPORTANT DATES

31 August 2019

5th Occupational Medicine Day

HANOVER

www.dgaum.de/termine

18-21 September 2019

REHACARE – International Trade

Fair for Rehabilitation and Care

DÜSSELDORF

www.rehacare.de

23-26 September 2019

10th International Conference on the

Prevention of Accidents at Work

VIENNA

www.wos2019.net

NUMBER OF THE MONTH

17.5 million

... children, adolescents and young adults were covered on their way to school or in their educational institution by Germany's social accident insurance in 2017.

Quelle: www.dguv.de > Webcode 33345

LEGAL INFORMATION

Published by: Deutsche Gesetzliche Unfallversicherung (DGUV), Dr Joachim Breuer (Director General). The DGUV is the umbrella association of the German Social Accident Insurance Institutions for the public sector and for trade and industry.

Publishing committee:

Dr Renate Colella (Chair), Udo Diel, Dominique Dressler, Professor Dr med Axel Ekkernkamp, Markus Hofmann, Gabriele Pappai, Dr Udo Schöpf, Karl-Sebastian Schulte

Editorship: Gregor Doepke, Kathrin Baltscheit, DGUV, Glinkastr. 40, 10117 Berlin

Editorial team: Kathrin Baltscheit, Diana Grupp, Claudia Kleist, Anne Schattmann

Translation: Peter Love

Layout: Christoph Schmid, www.christophschmid.com

Publisher: Quadriga Media Berlin GmbH, Werderscher Markt 13, 10117 Berlin

Printing: DCM Druckcenter Meckenheim

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

 @DGUVKompakt

News live from the editorial team:

www.twitter.com/DGUVKompakt

Contact

KOMPACT@DGUV.DE

WWW.DGUV.DE/KOMPACT

Entries open!

Entries for the **kommmitmensch** Film & Media Festival for A+A 2019 can be submitted until 30 July. The focus is on safety and health at work and road safety. You find further information at:

Web: www.kommmitmensch-festival.de
(German only)



Photo: CWH

» Dreh deinen Film... «

... zum kommmitmensch Film & Media Festival der A+A 2019 – mehr Sicherheit und Gesundheit bei der Arbeit!