

SSHE Newsletter 2/2019

September 2019

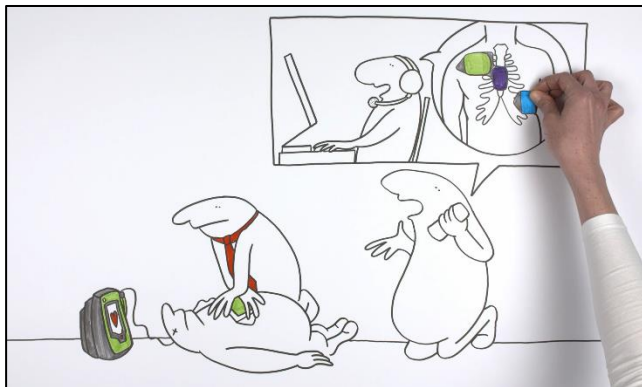
1) Safety Lecture for New Students

When countless newcomers are spotted scurrying around the campus at ETH Zurich, exploring Hönggerberg and the city centre with “fresher bags” on their backs, you know it’s that time of year again: Correct, ETH Zurich is ringing in the start of the autumn semester and opening its doors to new students.

The SSHE team will also be in attendance on 16 September. In the company of the ETH Zurich’s Rector, Prof. Dr. Sarah Springman, various SSHE employees will be welcoming the new Bachelor students as they attend the Safety Lecture held in the Audi Max, the surrounding lecture halls in the Main Building and in the HPH on the Hönggerberg. The event’s objective is to provide students with an overview of the key aspects to ensure safe study on their first day at ETH Zurich. The speakers will lecture on topics including how to act in emergencies and preventive measures to avoid accidents, as well as outlining what ETH Zurich expects from its students in terms of safe conduct. The new Master’s students will also receive an introduction on basic safety topics on the same day. Finally, SSHE will provide new doctoral students with relevant safety-related information on Orientation Day.

Perhaps the most important piece of information for all new students is the telephone number of ETH’s [Emergency Desk](#) →: 888 from ETH-internal connections, +41 44 342 11 88 from external connections or mobile phones. It follows that the first-year students will be encouraged to save the external number in their mobile phones during the lecture. We would recommend that all those reading this article do the same – always in the hope that you, like the new Bachelor’s and Master’s students, doctoral students and all members of ETH Zurich, will never have to use it. As the new semester begins, we wish all ETH Zurich members safe, accident-free study, research and work activities.

2) New Film: “How to Act in Case of an Accident”



Screenshot from the film “How to Act in Case of an Accident” (image: Julia Blum)

SSHE has released an [explanatory film](#) → that describes how to act in the case of an accident. It explains the best way to react in case of an accident or medical emergency, and also outlines the steps taken by ETH Zurich to guarantee a treatment response which is as fast and as competent as possible. Moreover, we are always on the lookout for talented first aiders who wish to join our First Aid Team. If you have further questions or are interested in joining the First Aid Team, please consult the [SSHE website](#) → or contact [Patrick Lehmann](#) →, who heads the First Aid Team.

3) New Alarm Network at ETH Zurich

The alarm and radio systems currently used at ETH Zurich are technically outdated and associated with increased expense and disproportionate effort. As a result, IT Services joined forces with the main user SSHE in March 2017 to launch a project designed to create a new alarm network (alarmNet). In July 2019, the new radio system was successfully commissioned in both the outdoor area and in individual buildings across the Zentrum, on Hönggerberg and in Oerlikon. With final completion due in 2021, alarmNet facilitates cross-campus radio communication and the alerting of the Fire Alarm Team and First Aid Team intervention units via pager. By this point, the system’s reach will extend across all sites within the perimeters of Zurich and its external locations, covering approx. 50 large-scale buildings.

alarmNet enables standardised alerting processes at all sites, and the system is recognised by the authorities as an internal alarm device for fire alarms thanks to its guaranteed maximum downtime of four hours per year. In addition to the SSHE, the system is also available to the city's fire brigade for its assignments. The Services department uses it for coordination purposes during events, and it is employed by the Educational Development and Technology department (LET) as a communication channel during online examinations.

In future, an associated project for alarm transmission for the safety of isolated workers (dead man system) will also use alarmNet as its basis; this system is due to become operational in 2020.

4) Safety Training in E-Learning Format



Screenshot of the E-learning module «How to Play it Safe»

SSHE has been discussing the potential use of e-learning modules for some time now. Careful consideration regarding the broadcasting of risk factors and safety aspects in the form of online tools is required in the process. However, we've now taken the plunge and are pleased to report that the first ever online safety training course will be available for use at the beginning of the new semester.

[How to Play It Safe in a Lab](#) → is a course which has proved very popular at ETH Zurich. Basic guidelines for laboratory safety constitute essential knowledge for those working in ETH Zurich's countless labs. This course module is by no means a replacement for the obligatory courses and introductions provided to users by laboratory managers (some of which involve highly specialised labs). However, it is a meaningful basis and an important complement to the hands-on inductions on site. For an overview of all our courses on offer, please consult our [course calendar](#) →.

5) Safeguards Regulation

The Safeguards Ordinance governs the execution of the agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the use of safety measures in the context of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (Safeguards Treaty). Within the framework of these international obligations, Switzerland has committed itself to the stricter implementation of safeguarding measures via the Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE). Thus, the possession and importing of, as well as the handling of thorium, uranium and plutonium compounds must be reported, irrespective of their amounts. ETH Zurich is now also obliged to comply with these regulations. If you are in possession of, and use, such compounds, please contact: sgu-umwelt@ethz.ch →.

Published by

ETH Zurich, Safety, Security, Health and Environment Department (SSHE)

Tel. +41 (0)44 632 30 30

www.sicherheit.ethz.ch →