

SSHE-Newsletter 2/2012

SSHE calendar of courses

All courses and lectures which are organised and held by SSHE, can now be found online on the new [SSHE calendar of courses](#). The calendar will be updated periodically.

Safety on excursions

New documents for the [planning of excursions](#) are now available on the SSHE website. Apart from a checklist, an example registration form and the link to the ETH-Zurich Rectorate information notice on “illness, accident and private liability insurance”, there is also a referral to the SUVA brochure “Kennen Sie das Gefahrenpotential im Betrieb?”, which contains a general checklist that enables those in charge to conduct a minimal risk assessment for a scheduled excursion / field work.

1 First Aid Team: fourteenth defibrillator installed



AED-device in the main building

The thirteen existing “automatic external defibrillators” (AED) at ETH Zurich were recently joined by a fourteenth. Eight AEDs are installed in the centre, six on the Hönggerberg. The devices aid reanimation in the event of cardiac arrest. While members of the First Aid Team are trained to use the equipment, other ETH-members with the appropriate knowhow (such as electricians, diving instructors etc.) should also be able to operate the AEDs.

When the AED is removed from the holder, the Emergency Desk (ED) is informed automatically. Nevertheless, the ED must also be notified verbally – by telephone on 888 (internal) or 044 342 11 88 (external) – as the precise location of the person to be treated and the nature of the incident need to be known too.

For more information on the First Aid Team and for the AED locations visit:

<http://www.sicherheit.ethz.ch/services/div/intervention/sanitaet>

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2 Switch to GHS



GHS-symbols

Hazardous areas (e.g. solvent cupboards, high-voltage rooms) and areas where special protective measures (e.g. safety goggles) are required must be labelled by the users, the same applies for containers that hold hazardous substances (hazard symbols are present on the label of original containers; if hazardous substances are transferred, new containers must be labelled accordingly). Two labelling systems are currently in use: the old European one (orange signs) and the new «Globally Harmonized System» (GHS; red and white). In the future, only the GHS symbols are to be used to label hazardous substances!

Colour	Symbol Colour	Meaning	Description	Example
red/white	black	danger	hazard sign (for instance on containers)	
red/white	black	prohibited	prohibition sign (for instance on doors)	
yellow	black	caution	warning sign (for instance on doors/machines)	
green	white	safety, protection, first aid	rescue sign (for instance on eye showers)	
blue	white	Mandate, indication	mandatory sign (for instance on doors/machines)	

Labels and the meaning of the colours

The [SSHE factsheet](#) "Kennzeichnung von Gefahrstoffen in Laborgebinden" contains more information on the subject. Labelling material and posters on what to do in the event of injury in a chemistry or biology lab are available from the [SSHE department](#) (German/English). SSHE will also be holding a brief info session on the GHS: «[Neue Gefahrensymbole](#)» (German) on 18.12.2012 in the centre and «[GHS-Classification and Labelling of Chemicals](#)» (English) on 19.12.2012 on the Höggerberg. Finally, for Smartphones there is a "[cheminfo-App](#)" with information on the GHS.

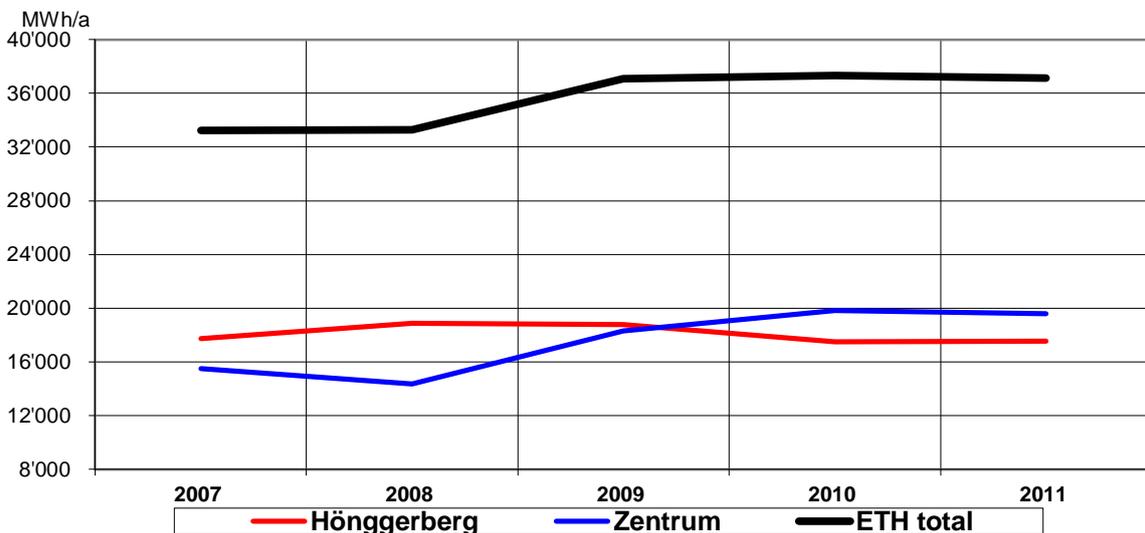
3 Personal protective equipment (PPE)

At the beginning of 2012, PPE procurement was reorganised and the departments and institutes affected now operate autonomously in this respect. However, corrected goggles can still be acquired via the SSHE division (contact: [SSHE division / CABS](#)). SSHE also offers advice on PPE in particular (contact person: Ms [A.K. Thomas](#)) and occupational safety issues as a whole (cf. [SSHE directory](#)).

The majority of PPE articles can be obtained in the HCI shop. Those in charge, R. Bemsel and A. Jompertz, have made sure that PPE can be selected in a [catalogue](#) (English version to follow) and ordered via [form](#) on the [website of the HCI shop](#). For the procurement of occupational safety footwear, SSHE holds two [shoe-fitting days](#) a year in conjunction with the company Brütsch Rüeegg. Your next opportunity will come on **18 April 2013**. All the information regarding PPE articles is available on the [SSHE website](#).

4 Environment: energy efficiency – optimisation of refrigeration

The search for possibilities to curb energy consumption is one of the main tasks of the SSHE division's environment sector. One aspect of this is the optimisation of refrigeration, which is primarily ensured by the operations department while SSHE handles the monitoring. Cooling plants are powered by electricity in seven refrigeration centres and thus produce lab cooling water, cooling or process refrigeration to air-condition computer centres, for instance. As refrigeration accounts for around ten per cent of ETH Zurich's electricity consumption, the efficiency of these machines has been monitored systematically for years. Due to growth and rising demands, however, ETH Zurich's refrigeration needs – especially in the centre – have increased in recent years.



ETH Zurich's refrigeration consumption

However, expensive electricity can be saved through the targeted operational optimisation of the systems as more refrigeration can be produced per kilowatt hour (KWh) consumed. In 2011 a saving of 1 GWh, i.e. a cost reduction of around CHF 110,000, was achieved in this way. At the same time, waste heat utilisation of the cooling plants was improved, a measure

which led to the saving of 3.2 GWh in the heating supply.

Refrigeration optimisation is thus a prime example of a successful interdepartmental project and, at the same time, a vital contribution to the achievement of ETH Zurich's energy objectives.

5 Signs for the evacuation assembly areas

Even with all ETH Zurich's efforts to construct, maintain and run its buildings safely, situations that necessitate an evacuation can still arise. The fire brigade thus recommends defining an assembly point for such cases, where the evacuees can temporarily remain. Furthermore, this would present an opportunity to gather information on what happened and offer those affected guidance on any additional measures until they can return to the building.

Various ETH-buildings might have as many 1,000 people in them during the semester. Accommodating such a large number of people in the immediate vicinity is practically impossible. Therefore, one central area was chosen as an assembly point in both the centre (Polyterrasse (MM), ASVZ Sports Hall Z 89) and on the Hönggerberg (HXE, "Härtsch Building", rooms on ground and top floor). The assembly points have already been signposted and the route to the assembly point in the centre is marked. The markers on the Hönggerberg are to be prepared in collaboration with the events division in 2013.



Signposts for the evacuation assembly areas on the Hönggerberg (left) and in the centre (right).

6 Organisation

New staff member Reto Suter joined ETH Zurich in September 2012. Previously, the historian with a doctorate from the University of Zurich was involved in protecting Swiss cultural property. He will be concerned with risk management (for the VPPR sector), the ETH crisis organisation, the administration of incidents and project management.



Reto Suter