



A personal logbook to improve site safety at Solingen in Germany



The construction industry is the sector where most workplace accidents happen, according to Eurostat data. Sonae Sierra is particularly aware of this issue for its shopping centre construction sites, where the scale and nature of the work can generate Safety and Health (S&H) risks for workers on site. Because those workers are our construction contractors' employees, as opposed to direct Sonae Sierra employees, it can be demanding to reach them and ensure that they respect our internal S&H rules and procedures. We also need to make sure that construction workers are fit for work and that the tasks assigned, the training provided and personal S&H records are sufficient and adequate.

We started the demolition work on Solingen site in Germany in September 2011 and, to tackle these issues, we decided to distribute personal logbooks to each worker. These logbooks are designed to hold certificates, evidence and information that their owner needs to work on site, including:

Name	Vaccinations
Age	Skills
ID reference number	Training sessions attended
Medical examinations	S&H records (non-compliance with established procedures, etc.)

This logbook is a document that every worker is required to carry when on site. Their use was suggested by our demolition phase S&H coordination team, GeoExperts. We explained to our suppliers how to use them and they have been well-accepted by all. The use of the logbooks has improved the efficiency of our S&H coordination by identifying workers who should or should not carry out specific tasks; who need training or special authorisation in certain cases; and those who might have recurrently been exposed to safety hazards or involved in incidents.

Although we cannot accurately measure or anticipate how many accidents were avoided thanks to this measure, we expect that it has played a part in the good S&H results achieved so far, as no incidents have been reported. Another important benefit is that this logbook has contributed to increasing workers' S&H awareness by being part of their daily routine. It also establishes clear responsibilities and allows supervisors to check workers' certificates as and when needed.