



First ever winner of the Healthy Workplaces Film Award is announced at international film festival

For the first time, the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) has supported the Healthy Workplaces Film Award for the best documentary on work-related topics at the 52nd International Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film. The 2009 winner is a film entitled *A Blooming Business* directed by Dutch director Ton Van Zantvoort, which shows the painful working conditions in a globalised flower industry.

Jukka Takala, Director of EU-OSHA, was enthusiastic about the successful cooperation with this international film festival, allowing the Agency to call attention to its mission of promoting safer and healthier workplaces in Europe: "It was a great idea to support the Healthy Workplaces Film Award at such an exciting and thought-provoking festival. There was a fascinating selection of films dealing with challenging and unfavourable working and living conditions. The films focused on the human being in a changing world of work, reflecting very well a sometimes sad reality in our globalised world. I would like to offer my congratulations to Ton Van Zantvoort, whose film was a worthy winner".

The submitted films explored the physical and psychosocial outcomes of economic transition and what happens to those people who are not able to keep pace with our working world. They looked at job loss, migrant workers, poverty, outsourcing, modern slavery, and how workers' rights can be affected.

"A Blooming Business" is a film that approaches the topic of 'work' in a highly creative way and highlights the strength of international documentary film-making in 2009. Festival director Claas Danielsen was satisfied with the outcome: "We are pleased that this film has won our first Healthy Workplaces Film Award, as it has illustrated the importance of human working conditions in a striking manner". 10 films from international filmmakers were nominated for the Healthy Workplaces Film Award and selected from 2,578 documentaries submitted to DOK Leipzig this year. Know more about the Healthy Workplaces Film Award 2009 from our website at: <http://osha.europa.eu/en/campaigns/hw2008/Film-Award>

EU-OSHA Award for the best documentary on work-related topics at the International Leipzig Film Festival

Film criteria

The film award honours a documentary film that focuses on the human being in a changing world of work. The film should deal with work-related topics such as physical and psychosocial conditions, risks at work, workers' rights, health and safety aspects or the effects of political and economic change on the way we work and live. Another focus could be on groups facing particular challenges, such as migrant workers, women, young and ageing workers.

The Healthy Workplaces Film Award is given to an authored, creative and artistic documentary with a specific point of view that convinces the jury by its compelling storytelling, strong characters and excellent filmmaking skills regarding camera work, sound and montage. DOK Leipzig stands for films dedicated to peace and dignity of mankind. The films presented in the documentary film competitions must not have been publicly screened in Germany before. World, international or European premieres will be favoured.