

## REPORT ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE "MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY"

(M&S 2012)

The 7<sup>th</sup> *Management & Safety (M&S 2012) Conference*, organized by the Croatian Association of Safety Engineers and the University College of Applied Sciences in Safety from Zagreb, was held on June 14-15 at the Sveti Martin Spa & Golf Resort in Međimurje (Croatia). The topic of this year's conference was *Human Resources Management and Safety*, thus actually continuing the Conference's program cycle entitled *Basic Management & Safety Functions*. It was dedicated to human resources as the most significant protection and safety factor and envisaged as an opportunity to supplement and articulate more strongly the discussions started at the previous conferences in order to examine more clearly their practical implications on continuous improvement of the condition of the field of management and safety in a wider social context.



Image: Joint photo of the participants to the M&S 2012 Conference in front of the Sveti Martin Spa & Golf Resort

The *Management & Safety (M&S 2012) Conference* represents the largest conference of the 5-year *Basic Management and Safety Functions* program cycle held so far. It is considered a great success that the Conference managed to gather scientists, professionals and creators of various profiles (118 authors from 4 countries) determined in their intention to offer to the society a human resources development scenario that would, with an adequate human resources strategy and management policy, lead to the creation of a safer society. The works by professionals and researchers from various scientific domains illustrate the attitude and the interest awakened by the topic of this year's Conference.

The general introductory essays of an invitational character were submitted by Prof. Vesna Nikolić, Ph.D (Serbia), Prof. Mirko Markič, Ph.D (Slovenia) and Prof. Ksenija Klasić, Ph.D (Croatia). In addition to these invitational lectures, the Conference's Proceedings includes 11 original scientific papers, 6 previous reports, 15 reviewed scientific papers, 8 presentations from a scientific gathering and 29 professional papers that were subject to international review by the members of the Conference Program Committee. Considering the complexity and scope of the issue of human resources management, the topic of the *M&S 2012 Conference* encompassed various aspects and problems associated with human resources management in various protection and safety areas.

Human Resources Management is a complex and responsible function that significantly influences the efficiency of other functions within an organization, and thus the Safety Management function as well. It refers to all areas of contemporary business and public safety of people, property and living environment (safety at work, protection against fires and explosions, physical and technical protection of people and property, civil protection, defense, protection of information systems, financial protection, insurance, etc.). The participants to the *M&S 2012 Conference* expanded and deepened the basis for defining the human resources management policy and strategy within the protection and safety domain with their essays, reports and discussions. The scientific and professional significance, value and applicability of international co-authorial works of a comparative nature showed that the participants to the Conference share a common view that there is a need to further expand international cooperation and initiate international research projects in their area of competence.

The great interest of the authors indicated the significance of a conference defined in terms of the topic and cycle as well as the need to continue realizing the program cycle of the Conference entitled *Basic Management & Safety Functions*. The next, 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive *M&S 2013 Conference*, this time on the topic of *Governance and Safety*, will be held on June 13-14, 2013 in Trakošćan, Zagorje, Croatia (<http://www.hotel-trakoscan.hr/>)