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## *Construction Management and Economics*

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#### **The European construction sector is among most dangerous**

In the current edition of *Construction Management and Economics*, Søren Spangenberg, Harald Hannerz and Finn Tüschén of the Danish National Institute of Occupational Health, examine the frequency of accidents that lead to hospitalization.

Their research reveals that the construction sector continues to be one of the most injury-prone industrial sectors in Europe. The development of a trans-European transportation network presents numerous challenges in preventing injuries. Spangenberg, Hannerz and Tüschén have compared hospitalizing injuries among workers engaged in the construction of different types of major tunnel and bridge traffic links. They show a big variation in hospitalization injury rates with different types of construction. While tunnel workers face poison gases, other workers suffer head injuries. The EU-directive on environmental impact assessment in pre-project decisions has led to increased environmental protection and awareness. However, the high hospitalization injury rates and the big variation with construction type both provide an argument to also include an occupational risk assessment in the pre-project decision making process in order to increase worker safety.

Full details can be found in the current issue of *Construction Management and Economics*, Volume 23 Number 3, published by Taylor and Francis.

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