ELF Aquitaine has been involved in workplace health promotion for many years. All activities are initiated by the department of occupational medicine. It develops campaigns and programmes for employees at the headquarters and for those who travel abroad.

**Preventative action for heart and circulation**

At ELF Aquitaine all health-related activities are designed for as broad a target group as possible and involve several departments in each case. For example, a prevention programme was started with the aim of preventing heart/circulation illnesses among the employees. For this purpose, tests and screenings were conducted in the sports centre while in the canteen a comprehensive programme with films and an information stand provided information on heart/circulation risks. The human resources department was also involved in these programmes.

Such topic-related projects generally last a whole year at ELF Aquitaine. The company newspaper reports constantly on the various programmes. Recently, a programme called “Health and Travel” was initiated which was aimed at those employees who “travel far and wide”. It intends to provide better information on the risk of tropical diseases, in particular malaria, and to offer assistance on how employees can protect themselves against such diseases. In relation to this employees were also able to have themselves tested for hepatitis A antibodies. It was found that only 50% of those “who travel far and wide” required an appropriate inoculation. The number of inoculations was thus reduced.

Another campaign at ELF Aquitaine focused on promoting non-smoking and this year another programme on alcohol abuse was introduced. The company has a sports centre which encourages the employees to do something for their physical fitness.

**Sights on health awareness**

The employees at ELF Aquitaine profit in many respects from the various health promotion programmes which are geared to more health-conscious behaviour in the workforce. The employees are therefore in a better position to prevent health risks.