



INERIS in brief...

INERIS
*controlling risks |
for sustainable development |*

INERIS

in a few words

FOUNDED IN 1990

INERIS' remit is to carry out, or to have carried out, studies and research that make it possible to prevent the risks that economic activities can present to the health and safety of persons and property and to the environment, and to provide a full range of services aimed at helping companies to attain this objective.

→ ACTIVITIES

- **Research** is focused on the acquisition of knowledge, the development of methodological tools and taking risks into account from the outset of the design of new technologies. This research is conducted on the basis of public funding or on behalf of industrial concerns (partnership research programmes).
- **Public authority support** is based on the certification of methods for assessing risks or pollution, elucidating and evaluating prevention means and providing expertise and surveillance on behalf of public authorities.
- **Regulatory expertise** on behalf of companies consists in appraising the compliance of equipment or systems with regulations, standards or frames of reference, particularly through certification, or providing, at the request of the authorities, an independent expert opinion (third party expert appraisals) on the validity of regulatory dossiers.
- **Expertise, consultancy and training** aim to transfer know how to those concerned by risk management (companies, local authorities, stakeholders, etc.) through a comprehensive and narrowly targeted range of services.

→ TECHNICAL METHODS AND MEANS

- INERIS combines an experimental approach with modelling, risk methodology and feedback/learning from experience.
- It is equipped with physical/chemical analysis laboratories and full and reduced scale test facilities that are among the best in France, both for studying effects on living beings and for studying accidental phenomena.
- It has an emergency situation support unit, which is mobilised 24h/24 in the event of major industrial accidents.

INERIS is a public industrial and commercial establishment (known as an “EPIC” in France) under the supervision of the French Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Land planning.

→ AREAS OF EXPERTISE

CHRONIC RISKS

Evaluation of the toxicity and the ecotoxicity of chemical substances. Modelling and surveillance of effects on humans and the environment caused by pollution, electromagnetic fields and due to installations and human activities. Reduction of pollution of surrounding environments and polluted soils.

ACCIDENTAL RISKS

Risk assessment (fire, explosion, toxic discharges, lightning, etc.) linked to industrial installations, processes, products, infrastructures and transport systems (tunnels, ports, etc.). Risk management through technological and organisational measures. Technical support in the implementation of PPRT (Technological Risk Prevention Plans).

GROUND AND UNDERGROUND RISKS

Assessment and prevention of the risks of land movements linked to former mine workings (mines and quarries) or certain natural sites (rocky slopes, earth banks, cliffs, etc.). Surveillance and auscultation of rock formations or underground workings. Assessment of risks linked to underground water and gas emanations from the ground.

→ AND ALSO ...

SAFETY OF PRODUCTS AND EQUIPMENT

Knowledge and classification of energetic and other hazardous products. Reliability of technological safety devices. Evaluation of the regulatory and normative compliance of systems, materials and products, including explosive and pyrotechnic products.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Providing advice and support in the implementation of HSSE (Health, Safety, Security & Environment) management systems and help in integrating QHSE (Quality, Health, Safety & Environment) management systems, as well as the development of tools for diagnosing and analysing human and organisational causes after an accident. Regulatory monitoring and audits.

Key Figures

In addition to its general management and functional departments, INERIS has five operational departments:

- **CHRONIC RISKS**
- **ACCIDENTAL RISKS**
- **GROUND AND UNDERGROUND RISKS**
- **CERTIFICATION**
- **KNOWLEDGE BUILDING & MARKETING**

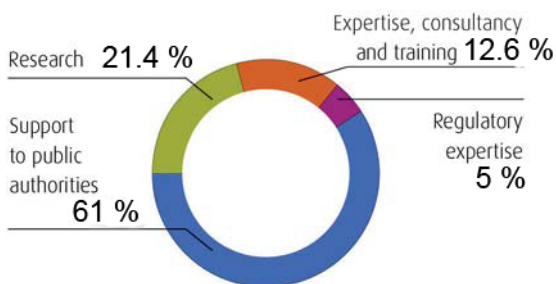
The mission of these departments is to implement INERIS' skills and expertise within the scope of the Objectives Contract between the French State and the Institute.

QUALITY AND DEONTOLOGY COMMITMENT

- INERIS is ISO 9001 certified for its study, consultancy, expertise, testing, training and product manufacturing activities. It is accredited by the COFRAC (French Laboratory Accreditation Committee) for various tests and calibrations and is certified as complying with Good Laboratory Practices in the fields of toxicology and ecotoxicology.
- The principles and ethics that the Institute strives to conform to in carrying out its missions, attaining its objectives and in maintaining its relations with its partners are set out in a deontology charter. She relies on seven ethical principles:
 - Independence of judgement
 - Competence
 - Adaptation of means
 - Scientific and technical quality
 - Duty of Information
 - Responsibility



BREAKDOWN OF ACTIVITIES



- Budget of 70.4 million euros in 2010
- Effectif = 587 (31/12/2010)

Controlling risks for sustainable development

→ RESEARCH IN SUPPORT OF FIELD ACTIONS

THE RESEARCH CARRIED OUT BY INERIS IS AIMED AT:

- Better understanding dangerous phenomena and their consequences.
- Providing public authorities with an independent scientific perspective on strategic issues.
- Integrating new knowledge in the conception of methodologies and operational tools for the purposes of risk assessment and prevention.
- Assuring a surveillance and warning role in order to facilitate the identification and the anticipation of emerging risks.

SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION

INERIS pursues an active policy of collaborating with other national research institutes and higher educational establishments. This collaboration mainly takes the form of joint research projects, framework agreements, exchanges or integrating researchers and, in certain cases, extends to the development of infrastructures aiming to bring together complementary skills and resources. Partenarial research with the industrial sector is another characteristic of INERIS' activities. This commitment is reinforced by the strong involvement of the Institute in what are known as Competitive Clusters, launched in 2006 by the French Government. It is also supported by the increasing participation of its teams in EU research and development programmes that associate important industrial groups with research organisations.



→ A PARTNER FOR SUSTAINABLE RISK MANAGEMENT

INERIS places its experience and its scientific and technical skills at the disposal of private industry, local authorities and government institutions in order to guide them in their actions with regard to health, safety and environmental protection. The study and consultancy services provided are as follows:

- **Accidental risks:** Identification, analysis and prioritisation of risks according to their importance – implementation of safety management systems – regulatory support – third party expert appraisals – drafting of emergency plans, etc.
- **Chronic risks:** Measurements of pollutants in the air, water and the ground – characterisation of polluting substances, discharges and wastes – study and biotests on substances – study of the effects on health and ecosystems linked to industrial activities – detailed studies of risks linked to potentially polluted sites and soils – impact studies, third party expert appraisals, etc.
- **Ground and underground risks:** Assessment of risks linked to emanations of gas from underground sources – risk assessment of land movements – contribution to the drafting of PPRN (Natural Risk Prevention Plans) and PPRM (Mining Risk Prevention Plans) – auscultation and surveillance of ground and underground risks, etc.
- **Certification:** regulatory certification of materials and products (ATEX, CEM Directives, etc.) or certification on a voluntary basis: conception, installation and on-site maintenance for electrical installation in ATEX (Ism-ATEX), repair of ATEX equipment (Saqr-ATEX), lightning protection (Qualifoudre), Environmental measuring instrument (NFIE), integrated safety systems (SIL INERIS), qualification of personnel involved in functional safety (Quali-SIL).
- **Risk management consultancy services:** Implementation of QHSE management systems, etc.

Training and sharing information

→ SHARING KNOWLEDGE IN DIFFERENT WAYS AND WITH DIFFERENT TARGETS AUDIENCES

- Implementation of **awareness raising and information initiatives** in order to encourage, within the public at large, the emergence of a genuine risk culture that takes into account the issues and challenges of sustainable development.
- Publication of **technical guides**, conception of **data bases**, production of **pedagogic films**, organisation of **exchange and information days** which constitute a panoply of resources that INERIS makes available to socio-economic stakeholders.
- Development of a diversified **range of training programmes** based on the experience and the expertise of INERIS' experts and which make use of original pedagogic methods (fifty or so inter-company work placements, customised training courses, specific job training, etc.).

→ KNOWLEDGE BUILDING AND SHARING

INERIS' scientific results are made available in different forms. They can be accessed on INERIS' Internet portal or are provided on specific supports. The most significant results are presented in a scientific report that is published each year. Knowledge is also shared and disseminated via an active policy of publications in scientific and technical reviews, and organising and/or participating in colloquiums and seminars.

- 318 publications in scientific reviews and 321 communications in congresses, conferences and seminars, in 2010.

The sharing and dissemination of knowledge and know-how constitutes one of the key aspects of INERIS' activity.

→ **ON-LINE OPERATIONAL TOOLS...**

On the website AIDA [<http://aida.ineris.fr>]

- AIDA: Monitoring of French and European regulations pertaining to Classified Installations for the Protection of the Environment
- BREF: Best Available Techniques

On the website VIJI [<http://www.ineris.fr/viji>]

- Legal monitoring of Health, Safety & Environment issues

On the chemical substances portal [<http://chimie.ineris.fr>]

- Toxicological and environmental data sheets of chemical substances
- Acute toxicity thresholds in accidental situations
- Toxicological and Environmental data base

On the BADORIS portal [<http://www.ineris.fr/badoris>]

- Safety provisions for preventing risks or limiting the occurrence of major accidents

On the website RSDE [<http://rsde.ineris.fr>]

- Tool for monitoring national research work and for reducing discharges of hazardous substances into water
- Economic data sheets for evaluating the economic issues linked to these actions

On the website PREV'AIR [<http://www.prevoir.org>]

- Forecasting and mapping of air quality in France and Europe

On the website Experimental Toxicology Unit [<http://toxi.ineris.fr>]

- Software application for calculating the fate of toxic substances in the body

On the portal INERIS [<http://www.ineris.fr>]

- Methodological guide "Evaluation of health risks in the impact study of Classified Installations for the Protection of the Environment"
- Guide to the Application of the classification of hazardous substances and preparations with regard to the nomenclature of Classified Installations
- Guidelines for the implementation of occupational Safety, Health and Environmental Management Systems.

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