

# An introduction to the bfu

Swiss Competence and Coordination Centre  
for Accident Prevention

bfu – Swiss Council for Accident Prevention



About us.

## **Swiss Competence and Coordination Centre for Accident Prevention – bfu**

Founded in 1938, the bfu is a private foundation and politically independent.

The bfu has a legal mandate to prevent non-occupational accidents and to coordinate prevention measures of all players.

Today the bfu is considered the Swiss Competence and Coordination Centre for Accident Prevention in the sectors of road traffic, sport, home and leisure.

The bfu and its partners campaign daily for greater significance to be awarded to accident prevention.

So that you live in safety.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Buhmann', written in a cursive style.

Brigitte Buhmann  
Director

Why we are  
committed.

## Fewer accidents – lower costs

The number of accidents per year in Switzerland is too high:

Non-occupational accidents in Switzerland, 2007	
Road traffic	95 000
Sport	304 000
Home and leisure	596 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>995 000</b>

By means of accident prevention, the bfu wants to prevent deaths and injuries and reduce the annual effective cost of 13 billion Swiss francs caused by non-occupational accidents.

We focus on  
these topics.

## **We work for your safety**

### **Road traffic**

The bfu promotes a safe traffic infrastructure and influences general legal conditions. It campaigns to reduce drink driving, for the observation of speed limits and wearing of safety belts.

### **Sport**

The bfu is engaged in ensuring safer sports areas and sports equipment, a responsible individual approach to risk and the wearing of protective gear.

### **Home and leisure**

The bfu campaigns for safety inside buildings (e.g. non-slip floors, balustrades) as well as outside (e.g. playgrounds). It promotes product safety by regular market checks and the award of the bfu safety label.

### **Product safety**

On behalf of SECO, the bfu is the supervisory body for products from the non-occupational sector.

What sets us  
apart.

## **Quality work in science and practice**

The work of bfu is carried out entirely in the service of accident prevention.

### **The bfu conducts research**

and defines objectives and priorities.

### **The bfu educates**

and provides a wide range of courses.

### **The bfu advises**

and supports the work of multipliers.

### **The bfu communicates**

and carries out safety campaigns.

### **The bfu is interlinked**

and fosters partnerships.

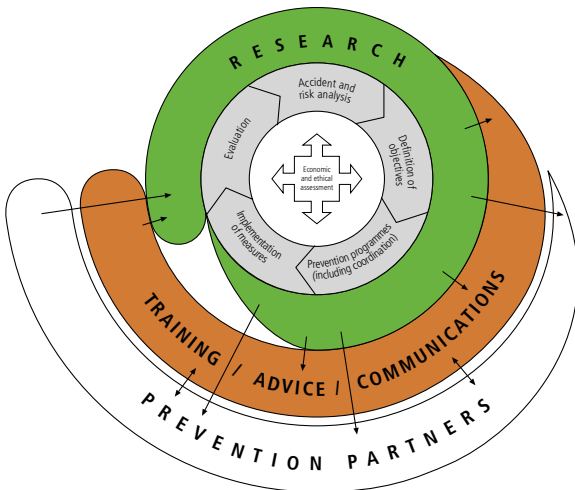
The bfu offers expert services on accident prevention to companies, organizations, authorities, partners and private individuals.

We reduce  
accident  
numbers.

## Prevention as a continuous task

It is a fact that many accidents are avoidable. And so the bfu does its utmost to research safety hazards and reduce accident risk by active prevention work.

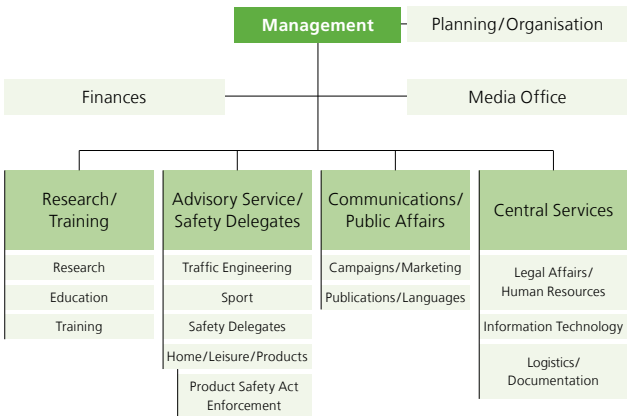
bfu accident prevention work is effective. It is based upon the effect-oriented prevention cycle. All measures are coordinated and implemented in cooperation with partners.



How we are  
organized.

## Efficient accident prevention

The bfu employs a staff of 125. In its organigram it combines fields of work with core competences. This enables an efficient and effect-orientated operation.



The bfu is financed by contributions from non-occupational accident insurance, monies from the Road Safety Fund and from own projects.

Why we make  
our knowledge  
available.

## **More knowledge – more safety**

The bfu systematically researches safety hazards and develops prevention measures in intercommunication and coordination with partners.

It passes on knowledge by means of consultancy, training sessions and communication.

The passing on of knowledge is an important part of the political mandate and the basis of successful prevention work.

In order to carry out efficient accident prevention, the bfu develops priority programmes and invites all prevention partners to take an active part.

Who can benefit  
from our  
knowledge?

## **Safe living – everyone can contribute**

The bfu has built up a unique network for accident prevention in cities and municipalities, namely 1200 bfu safety delegates. These are the link between the bfu and the population.

In addition, over 3500 company-based safety delegates ensure that non-occupational accident prevention is also a topic in everyday working life.

The bfu fosters contact with numerous other multipliers:

- Police traffic instructors
- School teachers
- Associations and institutions
- Media

There is also continuous exchange of knowledge with global institutions similar to the bfu.

Why a  
partnership  
with us is  
worthwhile.

## **With certainty the right partner**

All those who become a partner of bfu benefit from its know-how in the field of accident prevention.

Specialists, the media and the public value and rate our research results as reliable, factually correct and pointing the way forward.

With our logo, we show that campaigns correspond to the overriding objectives of accident prevention.

We thus make our know-how available to selected partners for prevention campaigns. To everyone's benefit.

How we will  
continue to  
commit  
ourselves to  
safety.

## **Continued commitment**

It is essential to continue to implement knowledge gained in effective and cost-effective prevention work. The bfu accepts this challenge by focusing on key aspects.

Using coordinated means and in cooperation with numerous partners, the bfu carries out systematic behavioural and structural prevention.

The bfu will continue to pursue the objective of accident prevention. Especially with accidents involving children. Because children are the future. And not least, motivation for bfu commitment.

How to find us.

## Location map

The bfu will be pleased to welcome you at Hodlerstrasse 5a in Berne.



# Live safely: your bfu.

bfu is committed to safety by public appointment. As the Swiss Competence Centre for Accident Prevention, it conducts research in the road traffic, sport, home and leisure sectors and passes on its knowledge to individuals and specialist circles by means of advisory services, training sessions and communications. More about accident prevention at [www.bfu.ch](http://www.bfu.ch).

© bfu 2010, may be reproduced if source is stated

---

bfu – Swiss Council for Accident Prevention  
Hodlerstrasse 5a, CH-3011 Berne  
Tel. +41 31 390 22 22, Fax +41 31 390 22 30  
[info@bfu.ch](mailto:info@bfu.ch), [www.bfu.ch](http://www.bfu.ch)

