Dear Institute Heads Colleagues

Following on from two incidents in the GIF in the north area I am obliged to write to you concerning safety at CERN. Although, fortunately there was no detriment or injury to those involved in this radiation test facility it appears and is agreed by CMS management that the situation, approach to safety must be improved.

We all make mistakes at some time or another and it is very tempting to “let it ride” as there are either “never” any checks nor accidents. This is a dangerous state of mind. Any incident will or should be taken as a “red flag” and contemplated in the frame work of taking responsibility for oneself and those colleagues involved in the type of activity where the incident occurred. We are personally responsible for our own safety and have the authority and obligation to intervene if we perceive other colleagues who are putting themselves or others in danger.

May I remind you that as Institute leader you are responsible for your direct colleagues, here at CERN, while they perform their studies and duties. This includes ensuring that they are equipped with the necessary PPE (Personnel Protection Equipment), are aware of procedures to be followed to perform their work, the hazards around them and the actions to take in the case of an incident or accident.

If there any questions or unknowns please consult Niels Dupont or myself.

Your RPC Safety representative