

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report

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KOSHA defined its last year's target as 'Making Our Country Safe - Providing Workers with Safe and Healthy Work Sites through Innovation of Work Environments.' and has enhanced its activities for providing technical, financial and educational support. Further, KOSHA has deployed variety of preventive activities against industrial accidents and occupational injury including support for establishing self-regulatory management at sites, improvement of harmful work environments, and activities for promoting health conditions of workers.

KOSHA will continue providing aggressive measures to meet rapid changes in the economy and communities as well as diversified requirements from the labor markets in Korea and will strive to promote active win-win programs and support for workers and companies based on respect for human life and dignity.

KOSHA shall also contribute to forming the foundation for a safe world by enhancing cooperative activities with number of accident-preventing organizations around the world through active exchange of technologies and information. I highly appreciate those nationally and abroad for their valuable support and advice for KOSHA.

**Park Kil-Sang**

**President**

**Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency**

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report

- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
- Safety and Health Improvement Plans
- Technological Support for Safety Control at Construction Site
- Prevention of Occupational Diseases and Protection of Workers' Health
- Building and Enhancing Preventive System for Major Accidents, and Supporting Establishment of Self-Regulatory Safety Management
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- Enhancement of Safety Awareness
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- R&D on Occupational Safety and Health
- International Cooperation

## **Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident**

To provide support relevant to safety, health and techniques and to eliminate causes of harmfulness and risks from work sites with high probability of accidents resulting from their weakness in techniques and finance demanded for improving safety and health facilities, KOSHA provides the work sites with financial support for improvement of facility through realizing clean work sites, executing programs for prevention and control of musculoskeletal disorder, improving work environments subject to high pitch of noises, and financing construction of industrial accident prevention facilities to ensure safe and pleasant work environments, and consequently contribute to prevention of industrial accidents.

## **Creating Clean Workplaces**

The project is to create pleasant work environments through introduction of fundamental improvement of work environments by providing financial support necessary for facility improvement in accordance with the results of consultation executed by experts for the purpose of improving processes generating noises, which typically occupy more than 95% of workplaces exceeding the exposure limits for work environments. The targets of the project are enterprises with noises exceeding the exposure limit, which have already participated, or plan to, in 'Hearing Conservation Program.

Hearing Conservation Program: A comprehensive program for preventing and controlling hearing impairment of workers resulting from noise, containing different activities such as noise exposure assessment, developing engineering measures against excess of exposure limit, supply of hearing ability protectors, education on hazards and prevention of noise, regular hearing tests, and recording and management of the results of the tests

### Support of Loans for Industrial Accident Prevention Facilities

The project aims to prevent industrial accidents and improve work environments through promoting investment into industrial accident prevention facilities by providing long-term loans of affordable interest rates for the facilities to medium- and small-sized enterprises deficient in funds for improving their safety and health-relevant facilities. The project supports the enterprises with loans for investment into improving existing facilities or securing new facilities for safety and health.

### Financial Support for Improvement of Work Environments at Workplaces Subject to High-Pitch Noises

Year	Fund	Applied		Approved		Paid	
		Amount	Enterprises	Amount	Enterprises	Amount	Enterprises
2005	800	137,936	1,803	1,294	1,803	800	1,040
2004	833	132,257	1,855	1,179	1,855	763	980
2003	1,340	115,266	1,629	1,093	1,591	627	940

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
- **Safety and Health Improvement Plans**
- Technological Support for Safety Control at Construction Site
- Prevention of Occupational Diseases and Protection of Workers' Health
- Building and Enhancing Preventive System for Major Accidents, and Supporting Establishment of Self-Regulatory Safety Management
- Safety Certification of Industrial Machinery & Equipment and Performance Tests of Safety Devices and Personal Protective Equipment
- Education & Training on Prevention of Industrial Accident
- Enhancement of Safety Awareness
- Publication and Distribution of Technical Information and Data
- R&D on Occupational Safety and Health
- International Cooperation

## Safety and Health Improvement Plans

The "safety and health improvement plan" is a legal project based on which the Minister of Labor may order the owner of the appropriate workplace to establish and implement a safety and health improvement plan covering the facilities and other items at the workplace as necessary to prevent industrial accidents.

Workplaces requiring safety and health improvement plans as prescribed under the law include:

- (1) Workplaces where the rate of industrial accidents is higher than the average within the same industry;
- (2) Workplaces with significantly poor working environments;
- (3) Workplaces experiencing 2 or more serious accidents per year;
- (4) Workplaces included in those specified above as separately designated by the Minister of Labor.

Any owner who receives an order to establish and implement a health and safety improvement plan should make the necessary preparations as prescribed by the Minister of Labor and submit them to the local labor office having jurisdiction within 60 days from receipt of such an order.

The health and safety improvement plan should contain the required items to improve the facilities, details of the health and safety management system, safety and health training, the working environment and the measures proposed to prevent industrial accidents.

In 2005, KOSHA provided technical support in establishing the health and safety improvement plans for 5931 workplaces with less than 50 full-time employees, and for 894 workplaces with more than 50 full-time employees in cooperation with the Ministry of Labor (regional labor office) in advance.

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

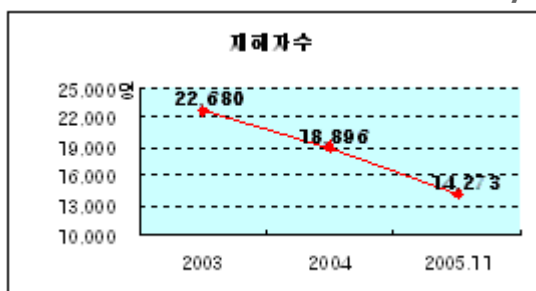
- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
- Safety and Health Improvement Plans
- **Technological Support for Safety Control at Construction Site**
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- Safety Certification of Industrial Machinery & Equipment and Performance Tests of Safety Devices and Personal Protective Equipment
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- Enhancement of Safety Awareness
- Publication and Distribution of Technical Information and Data
- R&D on Occupational Safety and Health
- International Cooperation

## technological support for safety control at construction site

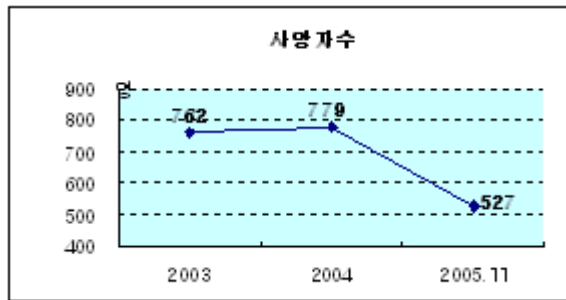
the construction market in korea last year suffered from stagnation in respect to the major construction market indices of the construction contract amount, the construction approved areas and the construction commencement areas: the whole size of the construction contracts in korea in 2005 was 99 trillion krw increased by 5.1% only above those in 2004, and the construction approved areas and the construction commencement areas were reduced by 5.1% and 7.8% respectively.

despite of the stagnation in the construction markets, kosha has consistently deployed diversified accident prevention projects, and as of 2003, succeeded in reducing number of injured workers ever increased since 1999. the number of injured workers has decreased by 24.5% as of november, 2005 compared to the number for the same period in 2004.

## trends of accidents in construction industry



number of injured



number of fatalities

### technical support for large construction sites

for large construction sites, kosha inspects the harmfulness and hazard prevention plan" submitted by construction companies as part of its efforts to secure workplace safety at the initial planning stage.

technical assistance provided to medium-sized construction sites in the last three years

project name	2005	2004	2003
patrol inspection	436	477	669
inspection during high-risk seasons	2,817	2,495	2,179

### technical assistance to small construction sites experiencing many accidents

there are many small construction sites whose contract amount is less than krw 300 million where employee safety awareness and safety technology levels are relatively low despite the occurrence of many accidents. kosha provides ongoing technical support and training to improve the level of safety awareness among related personnel.

technical assistance provided to small construction sites in the last three years

project name	2005	2004	2003
technical assistance provided to small construction sites	15,515	12,467	12,525

### self-regulatory safety management

unlike the manufacturing industry, a construction business is managed separately by a head office and a site office. to ensure effective management of employee safety both inside and outside the workplace, kosha distributed the "construction industry kosha 18001 program" , a safety and health management system, to 5

large construction contractors & 3 owners and inspected their activities for certification.

certifications of kosha 18001 in the last three years

year	2005	2004	2003
certification	2	1	3

to help construction companies with poor safety management systems develop self-regulatory safety and health programs, kosha received applications for technical support from construction contractors. in 2004, it provided free technical assistance for 1,180 construction sites. kosha has also identified good practices for safety activities through 'presentation of good practices for safety activities at construction sites twice a year, and informed the practices to the construction businesses. the activities of kosha included the technical seminars on the subjects of critical accidents or social issues taken places in 2005 to suggest potential solutions for technical and safety issues to the concerned parties in the construction industry. as a whole, kosha has contributed to the promotion of awareness for safety of construction workers by inviting them to these activities for securing safety.



# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
- Safety and Health Improvement Plans
- Technological Support for Safety Control at Construction Site
- **Prevention of Occupational Diseases and Protection of Workers' Health**
- Building and Enhancing Preventive System for Major Accidents, and Supporting Establishment of Self-Regulatory Safety Management
- Safety Certification of Industrial Machinery & Equipment and Performance Tests of Safety Devices and Personal Protective Equipment
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- Enhancement of Safety Awareness
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- R&D on Occupational Safety and Health
- International Cooperation

## **prevention of occupational diseases and protection of workers' health**

with new chemicals being used in advanced industries such as semiconductor or heavy chemical industries, the prevalence rate of occupational diseases has been increasing. furthermore, cerebrovascular diseases resulting from mental stress and musculoskeletal disorders resulting from the increased use of video-display terminals, increased simple and repetitive work and middle and advanced aged workers are on the rise.

to deal with this situation effectively, kosha conducts examinations regarding working environment monitoring. if the results keep exceeding governments prescribed exposure limits, the agency provides technical support to handle workplace risks as well as information on harmful chemicals. it is also launching a variety of projects to prevent occupational diseases such as cerebrovascular diseases and musculoskeletal disorders.

## **technical support to workplaces with poor working environments**

kosha conducted evaluations of working environments last year and selected the workplaces with poor working environments such as workplaces that exceeded permissible exposure limits of noise and dust workplaces found to have occupational diseases potential, workplaces manufacturing and/or using harmful substances, including benzene, lead, subject to kosha's monitoring, as well as workplaces suffering from oxygen deficiency. further, kosha provided professional technical support to enterprises designated by the regional labor authorities for verification of survey results of hazard and dangerousness of new chemical substances, and technical review and

follow-up management of applications for manufacturing chemical substances.

technical support to workplaces with poor work environments in the last three years

item		sites		
		2005	2004	2003
technical support to workplaces with poor work environments	sum	3,416	4,226	2,673
	workplace exceeding allowable noise/dust limit	708	1,411	579
	workplace handling chemical substances	475	300	-
	workplace handling chemical approval of manufacture/use	159	89	60
	workplace with contained space	305	305	84
	expert technical support for each hazardous elements	1,769	2,121	1,950

kosha drove a new environment improvement supporting project for workplaces subject to high-pitch noises in 2005 to provide expert consultation and funding support for the purpose of improvement of processes generating high-pitch noises, which typically occupy more than 95% of workplaces exceeding the exposure limit. in addition, to respond the requests by the regional labor authorities, kosha supported verification of investment plans and investment completion into work environment improvement facilities with the funds from the employment environment improvement funds for small and medium size enterprises to guide the enterprises for correct installation of the facilities.

## cerebrovascular diseases

recently, the population of middle and advanced age people has increased, along with the general levels of stress and the improved standard of living has led to a lack of physical exercise and many changes in lifestyle. kosha is building a database of workplaces having people suffering from hypertension, hyperlipidemia, diabetes, and other cerebrovascular diseases and provides appropriate training and technical materials as part of preventive measures. kosha operates the precision measurement centers for physical strength at seven regions to allow workers easily check their health conditions, and practice health condition improvement through scientific and systematic exercise diagnosis. in addition, the agency conducted health promotion campaigns for working places by assisting them in providing individually tailored various health promotion techniques based on its evaluation results, such as management of workers with basic diseases, prohibition of smoking, moderation in drink, nutrition management, exercise, etc. kosha also selected best practice cases among those workplaces

assisted by kosha to apply them to other workplaces.

technical support to workplaces with poor work environments in the last three years

item	2005	2004	2003
* technical assistance provided to workplaces in constructing and managing db (workplaces)	18,636	17,650	17,250
* prevention of cerebrovascular diseases (workplaces)	2,001	2,000	2,711
* health promotion (workplaces)	208	203	133
* no. of employers operating the exercise function test center (people)	16,686	16,390	16,493
* no. of employees visiting the exercise function test center (people)	20,344	35,454	23,184

#### **musculoskeletal disorder prevention project**

korea is witnessing rapid changes in its industrial structure and the resulting automation and mechanization of the production process including the increased use of computers. products have become smaller and more diversified, and precision works have shown a pattern of rapid development. due to such changes, however, a considerable number of workers avail themselves of the treatment for musculoskeletal disorders resulting from composite causes including repetitive works, unnatural working posture, use of excessive force, contact stress, and oscillation.

in these situations, kosha has deployed a project for establishing an infrastructure to reduce number of workers suffering from musculoskeletal disorders and to improve works having stress to musculoskeletal systems including; technical and financial support for prevention of musculoskeletal disorders, support for self-regulatory prevention activities at enterprises, and prevention of musculoskeletal disorders.

meanwhile, the agency provided 466 enterprises with self-regulatory programs for prevention and control of musculoskeletal disorders with a subsidy amounting 5 billion & 943 million krw for improvement of working facilities and conditions, and tried to establish a concrete foundation for prevention of musculoskeletal disorders through four seminars on current issues of musculoskeletal disorders, 14 meetings of the expert committee for preventing musculoskeletal disorders, and a presentation of good practices.

in addition, kosha developed and distributed the technical data for prevention of musculoskeletal disorders including the manuals for prevention and control of musculoskeletal disorders at the five industries frequent of the disease (131,850 copies of 15 types of data).

since a new law regarding the duty of owners to prevent musculoskeletal disorders was enacted and implemented, kosha has introduced the "guidelines for the examination of elements harmful to musculoskeletal system", "musculoskeletal disorder preventive programs" and other technical standards as the kosha code for dissemination to improve the work environments upon self-regulatory basis.

kosha constructed a musculoskeletal disorder prevention section on the internet. by linking the section with the kosha website, the agency provides technical materials for the prevention of musculoskeletal disorders, examples of ergonomically improved working environment, related laws and regulations and guidelines, international trends, and latest news (<http://msd.kosha.net>).

### **implementation of msds d/b**

as part of kosha's plan to prevent occupational diseases and accidents occurring to employees handling chemicals, information on hazards and risks related to such chemicals distributed nationwide has been stored on the msds database in the korean version. the database is provided to workplaces free of charge through the kosha website. the material safety data sheet system was introduced on july 1, 1996, and the website has received a total of 2,065,65 since then.

the projects executed in 2005 include the free service of the database (50,5000 items) of material safety data sheet (msds) updated with chemical substances at the workplaces manufacturing and/or using multiple types of chemicals, those of importers/distributors of chemicals, and those that have newly been registered for enhancing information services on harmful chemical substances.

clicks on msds db in the last three years

item	2005	2004	2003
clicks	596,441	341,411	282,003

in 2005, kosha completed construction of its chemical substances safety & health center capable of executing analysis and tests of toxicity and physical/chemical properties of components in chemical substances to ensure reliability of the msds database. the center fully supported with experts, facilities and systems is also establishing a verification system of reliability for msds first in korea by enhancing establishment of the msds database, and updating the database with the results of in-house toxicity and risk tests.

## 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
- Safety and Health Improvement Plans
- Technological Support for Safety Control at Construction Site
- Prevention of Occupational Diseases and Protection of Workers' Health
- **Building and Enhancing Preventive System for Major Accidents, and Supporting Establishment of Self-Regulatory Safety Management**
- Safety Certification of Industrial Machinery & Equipment and Performance Tests of Safety Devices and Personal Protective Equipment
- Education & Training on Prevention of Industrial Accident
- Enhancement of Safety Awareness
- Publication and Distribution of Technical Information and Data
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- International Cooperation

### **building and enhancing preventive system for major accidents, and supporting establishment of self-regulatory safety management**

#### **support for the implementation of occupational health and safety management systems**

the "health and safety management system" (ohsms) pertains to a system under which an employer reflects the health and safety policies in corporate management policies and establishes detailed execution guidelines and regulations to be complied by all employees. in addition, management self-evaluates the results of the management plan periodically to ensure its continuous improvement.

to promote such occupational health and safety management systems, kosha started implementing the kosha 18001 certification system in july 1999 for the compliance of all workplaces.

kosha 18001 certifications in the last three years

item	2005	2004	2003
sites	30	45	28

#### **inspection and verification of psm reports**

any single major industrial accident such as fire, explosion or leakage at a single oil refinery or petrochemical

plant gives huge adverse effects to residents and environments in the vicinity of the plant not to mention workers inside the plant. the process safety management (psm) system is a mandatory system demanding workplaces operating hazardous and harmful facilities to submit the process safety reports to kosha, which, in turn, deliberates and approves the reports. the system has entered into force as of jan. 1, 1996. number of the enterprises subject to the psm system is total 788 including 169 in eight industries including crude oil refinery business, and 619 processing one or more of 21 hazardous and harmful substances such as chlorine and phosgene exceeding prescribed quantity as shown in the table below:

workplaces subject to psm (as of dec. 31, 2005)

total	eight industries									prescribed quantity
	sub-total	crude oil refinery	oil refinery	oil basics	synthetic resin	nitrogen fertilizer	compound fertilizer	agricultural chemicals	explosives and fireworks	
788	168	30	19	54	40	3	-	7	16	619

#### operation of regional integrated risk management systems

kosha developed the integrated risk management system program to prevent major industrial accidents and mitigate damage from any accidents, distributed the program to concerned enterprises, local governments and firefighting authorities, and enhanced education of employers to promote utilization of the program.

#### development of guidelines on kosha codes

to meet the requirements for development and distribution of the technical criteria for safety and health appropriate for concerned situations at workplaces, kosha organized the criteria enactment committee to enact and distribute 239 kosha codes.

workplaces subject to psm (as of dec. 31, 2005)

total	general	machinery	chemicals	electrics	construction	health management	hygiene	medicine
252	7	77	73	31	26	8	12	18

## 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
- Safety and Health Improvement Plans
- Technological Support for Safety Control at Construction Site
- Prevention of Occupational Diseases and Protection of Workers' Health
- Building and Enhancing Preventive System for Major Accidents, and Supporting Establishment of Self-Regulatory Safety Management
- **Safety Certification of Industrial Machinery & Equipment and Performance Tests of Safety Devices and Personal Protective Equipment**
- Education & Training on Prevention of Industrial Accident
- Enhancement of Safety Awareness
- Publication and Distribution of Technical Information and Data
- R&D on Occupational Safety and Health
- International Cooperation

### **safety certification of industrial machinery & equipment and performance tests of safety devices and personal protective equipment**

#### **"s" mark safety certification**

the "s" mark safety certification system was introduced in november 1997. the system aims to evaluate product safety and reliability and the manufacturers' quality control systems comprehensively to help machine manufacturers and tool makers design and manufacture safe products and prevent industrial accidents by enabling manufacturers to distribute safe products.

the criteria of the "s" mark safety certification are divided into essential standards, common standards and product-specific standards. since these standards are governed by globally accepted international standards, i.e., iso and iec and en (european norm), overseas certifications, including the ce mark, can easily be acquired for most machinery by simply obtaining "s" mark certification through the european certification institution (the notified body) with which kosha has signed a service cooperation agreement.

clicks on msds db in the last three years

item	total	2005	2004	2003
safety certificates	1,575	753	487	335

### performance tests of safety devices and personal protective equipment (ppe)

performance tests of safety devices and personal protective equipment is a system used to determine the appropriate structure, material and performance for 14 dangerous or hazardous machinery and equipment and safety devices and 11 personal protective equipments with high rate of occupational accident under the occupational safety and health act. kosha tries to prevent industrial accidents by allowing use of safety devices and personal protective equipment ensured of safety only at new certification upon manufacture and import of the devices and the equipments, random certification of them released to the markets after performance certification, and renewed certification of them upon expiry of the valid period of the original certification.

clicks on msds db in the last three years

item	total	2005	2004	2003
performance tests	8,201	2,876	3,464	1,861

### inspection of dangerous or hazardous machinery, equipment and facilities, and training

since july 1, 1991, kosha has been conducting inspection on 6 types of dangerous machines and equipment, including cranes and pressure vessels with a high risk potential for accidents pursuant to the occupational safety and health act. under this inspection system, all manufacturers, importers, installers, and users are required to undergo 3 stages of inspection: design inspection prior to manufacturing, completion or performance inspection after manufacturing (or inspection during the process of manufacturing), and periodic inspections during use.

types of inspections performed in the last three years

inspection type year	total	design inspection	completion inspection	performance inspection	periodic inspection
2005	87,671	9,156	22,263	12,693	43,559
2004	87,148	8,778	23,088	12,404	42,878
2003	77,949	8,083	21,642	11,342	36,882

types of machines inspected in the last three years

inspection type year	total	cranes	lifts	pressure vessels	presses & shearing machines	rollers
2005	87,671	42,572	7,620	36,929	527	23
2004	87,148	42,268	8,546	35,693	608	33



inspection type year	total	cranes	lifts	pressure vessels	presses & shearing machines	rollers
2003	77,949	36,848	8,592	31,661	882	16

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
- Safety and Health Improvement Plans
- Technological Support for Safety Control at Construction Site
- Prevention of Occupational Diseases and Protection of Workers' Health
- Building and Enhancing Preventive System for Major Accidents, and Supporting Establishment of Self-Regulatory Safety Management
- Safety Certification of Industrial Machinery & Equipment and Performance Tests of Safety Devices and Personal Protective Equipment
- **Education & Training on Prevention of Industrial Accident**
- Enhancement of Safety Awareness
- Publication and Distribution of Technical Information and Data
- R&D on Occupational Safety and Health
- International Cooperation

## **education & training on prevention of industrial accident**

kosha has developed and operated a variety of education programs pertinent to occupational safety and health appropriate for respective jobs, accident types and regions through accident analysis for realizing safe and healthy industrial communities, and succeeded in promoting safety awareness and preventing industrial accidents to a large extent.

## **supporting systems for education of safety and health**

kosha has consistently developed and operated the education courses for occupational safety and health pursuant to article 31 'education of safety & health' and article 32 'education of staffs responsible for management' of the occupational safety and health act. in particular, kosha has recently developed and operated diversified education courses appropriate for management, staff, workers and common citizens to meet the requirements from the customers, optimizing effects from education and customer' satisfaction.

## **support for customized training courses satisfying consumers needs**

### **1. training courses for management**

the annual meeting of management from enterprises at kosha is a place to suggest good cases of safety for

strengthen competitiveness of enterprises, and to aggressively guide the enterprises to promote safety awareness and investment into safety systems. further, kosha trains employers of hazard businesses selected from enterprises of less than 50 employees of frequent accidents in respective regions for various courses including administration and safety, analysis of accident causes, and safety-ensuring measures to guide them to establish self-regulatory safety management for the purpose of reduction of accidents.

item	2005	2004	2003
annual meeting of management for safety and health	2,139	2,036	1,911
education for enterprise owners with less than 50 employees	14,826	16,462	20,894

## 2. training courses for supervisors

kosha contributes to reduction of accidents at workplaces by providing appropriate training courses developed for situations in respective regions through analyzing industrial structures and accident occurrences in the regions. kosha will have established 6 regional training and information centers around the country in 2006 to enhance opportunities for training courses to regional enterprises, and operate on-the-job training for supervisors. the centers also enhance customized training courses such as comprehensive consulting services for safety & health training based on risk assessment at individual enterprises.

item	2005	2004	2003
locally tailored education	23,887	33,643	26,085

## 3. training courses for employees

the training and public relations teams at the 20 affiliates provide training services by making use of buses fully equipped with visual and audio training systems to workers at manufacturing and construction workplaces that are poor of in-house training because of deficient circumstances for the training such as training space and lecturers. the teams also provide free training courses and lecturers for safety and health upon request from medium- and small-sized enterprises that are virtually improbable of executing in-house training courses due to lack of expertise in safety and health.

item	2005	2004	2003
mobile safety education	109,230	106,484	106,824
support of in-house education	81,610	99,863	104,181

## 4. on-the-job safety training

kosha provides free on-the-job training for construction safety to help employees recognize safe work at sites by allowing them to experience physical injuries sustained by falling objects and falls. this on-the-job construction training (conducted in 6 training centers) involves over 30 construction safety-related facilities, including the use

of safety belts and harnesses, breaking tests of fall-prevention nets and safety helmets, and firefighting and emergency rescue for construction employees and supervisors.

item	2005	2004	2003
on-the-job training	31,780	36,700	35,710

in addition, trainees can use the computer-based virtual reality technology to tour dangerous workplace. they can also experience the hazards and process of accidents at plants or construction sites through a computer-graphic 3d video. for this, kosha operates 1 virtual safety training center whose operation is linked with the on-the-job construction safety training center for workers, common citizens and students free.

item	2005	2004	2003
virtual safety training	40,394	45,985	15,866

## 5. training courses for experts of safety & health

as a part of its specialist development program, kosha provides basic training courses, practice-centered advanced training courses and distance learning for health and safety managers and supervisors to prevent industrial accidents and occupational diseases and improve workers' health. it conducts in-service training to enable safety and health managers to perform fieldwork effectively. it also provides mail correspondence program to improve supervisors' competence, thus making them more aware of safety and health within workplaces and always keeping safety in their mind while working. kosha has been offering cyber training programs through the internet.

item		2005	2004	2003
total		12,997	12,412	12,942
basic training course		369	412	643
advanced training course		7,473	7,931	7,820
distance learning	mail	3,666	3,531	3,923
	internet	1,462	538	556

## 6. early safety training

to prevent accidents effectively, everyone should voluntarily participate and cooperate under the positive awareness campaign on safety. it is extremely essential that children and primary, middle, and high school students form a sense of safety consciousness and develop safety habits during their formative years.

as part of the early safety training program, kosha conducts free training courses for 2 days (16 hours) for kindergarten and primary school teachers to foster safety culture instructors with the necessary qualifications. it

also promotes children's safety awareness by supplying safety training materials that are appropriate for students ranging from kindergartens to primary schools.

to prevent accidents in schools, instill safety awareness and develop the attitude of students through school courses and safety activities, kosha operates a model safety school designated by the city and provincial administration of education. the agency provides all training materials and instructors as well as the finance required for the operation of the model school.

item	2005	2004	2003
training for safety instructor	1,691	1,698	1,700
operation of designated model schools for safety training	64	64	64

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
- Safety and Health Improvement Plans
- Technological Support for Safety Control at Construction Site
- Prevention of Occupational Diseases and Protection of Workers' Health
- Building and Enhancing Preventive System for Major Accidents, and Supporting Establishment of Self-Regulatory Safety Management
- Safety Certification of Industrial Machinery & Equipment and Performance Tests of Safety Devices and Personal Protective Equipment
- Education & Training on Prevention of Industrial Accident
- **Enhancement of Safety Awareness**
- Publication and Distribution of Technical Information and Data
- R&D on Occupational Safety and Health
- International Cooperation

## Enhancement of Safety Awareness

To enhance safety awareness among employees and employers and to create an effective safety culture nationwide, KOSHA is implementing various PR and campaign activities through various media.

### 1. National Safety Culture Movement

In the latter half of 1995, the government started the safety culture movement with the participation of civilian, government, and other organizations covering all social sectors to establish a pan-national safety culture.

As of April 1996, the safety culture implementation committee declared the 4th (or on the following business day if the 4th falls on a holiday) of each month as "Safety Inspection Day." The project seeks to enhance public safety awareness and to implement monthly accident prevention and risk detection activities.

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Item	2005	2004	2003
Safety culture organization	-	-	-
"Safety Inspection Day"	345 places	454 places	556 places

## 2. Occupational Safety and Health Week

Together with the Ministry of Labor, KOSHA holds the Occupational Safety and Health Week events every year pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act. With the first week of July of each year declared as industrial safety campaign week, occupational safety and health personnel are rewarded for their meritorious contributions to the prevention of industrial accidents. An accident prevention atmosphere is created under this campaign by exchanging accidents prevention technology and encouraging free discussions.

KOSHA executes different events to enhance safety awareness of employers and workers as well as experts of safety & health and common citizens; occupational safety & health meetings, international fair of safety equipments, improvement of work environments and firefighting industries, essay and media image competitions on safety, and operation of safety experiencing pavilion.

## 3. PR Activities through the Media

To enhance safety awareness among employees and employers and to create an effective national safety culture, KOSHA provides health and safety information and promotes its accident prevention activities through various media. KOSHA operates a public relations exhibition hall at its headquarters to enhance education effects for safety and health for workers, students and people responsible for safety & health..

### Summary of PR Activity

•

Item	2005	2004	2003
Publicity through the broadcasting media	158 parts	113 parts	139 parts
Publicity through visual material	144 places	88 places	87 places
Publicity through the press	4,430 times	6,096 times	7,451 times
Occupational Safety and Health Hall	14,624 people	15,625 people	14,512 people

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### 4. Zero-Accident Movement

The objective of the zero-accident movement is to create human-centered bright and pleasant workplace environment by eliminating industrial accidents through ensuring safety and health in workplaces with every member of the workplaces participating in the movement based on philosophy of respect to human beings.

Status of participation (as of Dec. 31, 2005: Unit Place)

Item	Total	Less than 50 workers	50~99	100~299	300 or more workers
2005	2,658	1,172	765	549	172
2004	2,570	1,294	569	536	171
2003	4,654	3,008	886	621	139



Status of Target Achievement by Year (as of December 31, 2004, Unit: Place)

•

Item	Total	50%	100%	Two-fold achievement	Threefold	Fourfold	Fivefold	Tenfold or higher
2005	1,201	0	605	238	154	0	127	77
2004	1,210	0	604	228	197	0	126	55
2003	1,003	0	374	255	176	0	146	52

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
- Safety and Health Improvement Plans
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- Education & Training on Prevention of Industrial Accident
- Enhancement of Safety Awareness
- **Publication and Distribution of Technical Information and Data**
- R&D on Occupational Safety and Health
- International Cooperation

## Enhancement of Safety Awareness

To enhance safety awareness among employees and employers and to create an effective safety culture nationwide, KOSHA is implementing various PR and campaign activities through various media.

### 1. National Safety Culture Movement

In the latter half of 1995, the government started the safety culture movement with the participation of civilian, government, and other organizations covering all social sectors to establish a pan-national safety culture.

•

Item	2005	2004	2003
Safety culture organization	-	-	-
"Safety Inspection Day"	345 places	454 places	556 places

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Workplaces Participating in the Accident-Free Campaign by Size and Year

Status of participation (as of Dec. 31, 2005: Unit Place)

Item	Total	Less than 50 workers	50~99	100~299	300 or more workers
2005	2,658	1,172	765	549	172
2004	2,570	1,294	569	536	171

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Status of Target Achievement by Year (as of December 31, 2004, Unit: Place)

•

Item	Total	50%	100%	Two-fold achievement	Threefold	Fourfold	Fivefold	Tenfold or higher
2005	1,201	0	605	238	154	0	127	77
2004	1,210	0	604	228	197	0	126	55
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# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

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- Publication and Distribution of Technical Information and Data
- **R&D on Occupational Safety and Health**
- International Cooperation

## R&D on Occupational Safety and Health

KOSHA operates Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute to prevent industrial accidents and contribute to development of the national economy by improving safety and health of workers and promoting accident prevention activities of employers through efficient execution of R&D projects pertinent to prevention of industrial accidents. The institute conducts researches on health and safety policies and systems, occupational safety including machinery, electricity, chemicals and construction industries, and industrial health including working environments, occupational diseases and toxic chemical substances.

### 1. Research on Safety Management Policies

KOSHA carries out research for the national safety & health management system and the safety and health issues upon continuous changes in the labor environments, and provides statistical data relevant to industrial accidents to consistently improve policies and systems for occupational safety and health. The agency also sets medium- to long-term targets for health and safety researches, and lays down the foundation for effective and systematic occupational safety and health researches through overall coordination. To achieve the targets of continuous improvement of policies and systems pertinent to occupational safety and health, KOSHA executed several studies in 2005 such as: 'A Study on systems and disciplinary methods in Occupational Safety and Health Act for accommodating changes in Structures of Industries and Employment' and 'A Study on establishment and operation of occupational safety and health committees on construction sites'. Also, KOSHA carried out a couple

of studies on identifying the effects of changes in labor environments: 'A Study on the effect of reduction in working hours on safety and health' and 'A Study on the influences of drunken workers to industrial accidents. Furthermore, to provide alternatives for safety & health management in small-sized enterprises, the agency executed 'A Study on measures for establishing regional safety & health centers for reducing industrial accidents at small-sized enterprises.' KOSHA performed three surveys in 2005 to produce information on safety and health beneficial to the country: Survey of trends in occupational safety and health; Survey of compliance with regulations of inspection of hazardous equipments; and Survey of safety awareness level of employers and workers. The survey of trends in occupational safety and health has been executed upon annual basis since 2002 to accumulate information on the current situations and changes of nationwide occupational health management.

Studies on Safe Management Policies in the last three years

•

Item	2005	2004	2003
Study planning	-	-	1
Study policy	8	8	8
General study policy	1	2	-

## 2. Research on Occupational Safety

The occupational safety research carries out researches on machinery safety, electric safety and construction safety. Each sector executes practical studies for easy adaptation to workplaces for efficient prevention of accidents, occasionally performs interdisciplinary researches and also carries out joint researches with industry, universities and other research institutes, in addition to international research exchange. In addition, using the latest scientific techniques including various experiments and simulations, the agency conducts in-depth analysis of the causes of recent accidents and establishes comprehensive prevention measures. KOSHA has also executed studies on various sectors including: Improving the performance of protective equipments against hazardous machines; Measures for improving man-machine operating systems in ergonomic standpoint of view; Improvement of testing and certificating criteria; Development of anti-explosion technologies of electric machinery and equipment; and Quantification of risk index for bridge construction. It also holds seminars focusing on the issues drawing public attention on topics such as safety at laboratories to further foster a safety culture and to disseminate appropriate technical assistance pertaining to accident prevention. To propagate the research results widely, the agency publishes a final report at the end of each research project, and constantly promotes domestic and international seminars including joint seminars and information exchanges with overseas safety research bodies including National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of Japan, in addition to publishing articles in domestic and international technical journals.

Studies on Industrial Safety in the last three years

- | Item         | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Machinery    | 6    | 5    | 3    |
| Construction | 4    | 3    | 4    |
| Electricity  | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| Chemicals    | 2    | 3    | 2    |

### 3. Studies on Industrial Health

Studies on Industrial Health in the last three years

- | Item                | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|
| Toxicity            | 4    | -    | -    |
| Health              | -    | -    | 2    |
| Job-related disease | 7    | 3    | -    |
| Hygiene             | 7    | 3    | 4    |
| Chemical substances | 3    | 10   | 8    |

#### 3-1. Research on Industrial Hygiene

KOSHA's department in charge of industrial hygiene aims at developing the necessary strategies and technologies to protect workers against harmful physical, biological and chemical factors. It recognizes that improving working environments should be prioritized to prevent occupational diseases as part of its efforts to provide technical support to workplaces with hazardous materials that exceed exposure levels through the handling of toxic materials such as chemical substances. Thus, in addition to researching on the improvement of the legal system at a national level pertaining to industrial hygiene, KOSHA has conducted Health Hazard Evaluations (HHE) for workers engaged in harmful work and researches on the proficiency of workplace exposure monitoring bodies.

The studies also include those on industrial ventilation by developing practical ventilation models through making use of computerized fluid dynamics (CFD) techniques, physical factors to suggest devices for reducing exposure to workers through studies of ventilation at workplaces and precise measurement/analysis of areas of high-risk work conditions, indoor air quality (IAQ) and exposure assessment and management guideline development for use of materials causing endocrine system disorder.

HHE is a project to suggest improvement measures based on exposure assessment of workers to specific harmful

elements. The quality assurance is executed twice a year for metal and organic compounds at some 120 workplace environment measurement institutes in Korea. In the meantime, KOSHA participates in the Proficiency Analytical Testing (PAT) program executed by American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) four times a year as a quality assurance assessment organization, and has been kept at the condition of proficiency every year since 1992.

### **3-2. Research on Prevention of Occupational Diseases**

The objective of studies on prevention of occupational disease is to develop techniques for early identification and prevention of the diseases, and to provide appropriate measures against the diseases.

The studies on prevention of the occupational diseases executed by KOSHA in 2005 include: Development of DNA marker and microarray for diagnosis of lead induced toxicity; Development of biomarkers for the early diagnosis of occupational disease in the workers chronically exposed to n-hexane; Lung cancer morbidity of workers exposed to carcinogenic heavy metals; Effect of occupational manganese exposure on the central nervous system of welders: <sup>1</sup>H magnetic resonance spectroscopy and MRI Findings; Evaluation of infectious disease in health care workers, focusing on management control of occupational safety and health system; Analysis of aluminium in urine by HPLC-FD; and The investigation for the number of the professional divers and the condition of their health related to diving practices in Korea.

### **3-3. Research on the Prevention of Work-related Diseases**

Since the late 1990's, the changes in the structure of industry and labor force, and the increased occupational health awareness have led work-related diseases such as cerebrovascular diseases and musculoskeletal diseases to be regarded as occupational diseases, thus contributing to the increased proportion of work-related diseases out of total occupational diseases. This results in calling the agency for urgent measures on prevention of work-related diseases.

The studies on prevention of occupational diseases executed by KOSHA in 2005 consist of: Analysis on ergonomic assessment methods of work-related musculoskeletal disorder hazards according to work conditions - A symptom of work-related musculoskeletal disorder, disabilities of upper extremity and ergonomic evaluation; Effects of job-related stressors and workload on worker's health; Status of high risk group of job stress and management of working conditions; Development of industrial & medical management model of occupational diseases; and Development of five manuals for prevention and control of musculoskeletal disorders in respective jobs and work types.

## **4. Occupational Disease Diagnosis**

### **4-1. Epidemiological Investigation**



In the case of a health disorder whose causes cannot be determined through assessment of the working environment or medical examination, owners and/or industrial medical specialists may request the OSHRI to conduct an epidemiological investigation. The OSHRI conducts epidemiological investigations through monitoring working environments and investigating working conditions, clinical tests, and the health of the workers in each department and process, and the results are used to clarify the causes of occupational diseases and establish prevention measures against new types of occupational diseases.

Investigation in the last three years

•

Item	2005	2004	2003
Internal selection	-	-	46
External request	6	10	3

#### 4-2. Diagnosis of Work-related Diseases

The Korea Labor Welfare Corporation may request the OSHRI to diagnose work-related diseases when it is difficult to determine whether a patient referred to the corporation for medical care has a work-related disease, or when a new work-related disease is suspected. The institute then reviews current medical literature, evaluates working environments, and conducts a comprehensive medical evaluation. It consolidates all data, draws conclusions, and reports the findings to the Corporation.

Investigations following requests for evaluation of work-related diseases in the last three years

•

Item	2005	2004	2003
Approved	31	12	36
Rejected	30	17	46
Undetermined	24	70	52

#### 5. Chemical Substance Control

The Chemical Substance Research Center aims to contribute to the prevention of industrial accidents and occupational diseases resulting from industrial chemical substances. For this purpose, the center conducts assessments of the harmfulness and hazardousness of chemical substances being used in Korea. Other related services include the provision and updating of related information, the promotion of certification in the use of chemical substances, and the provision of analysis support.

### 5-1. Supply and Distribution Management of Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) Database

KOSHA invites experts in respective fields to supply recent and precise MSDS, develops new MSDS for concerned substances upon annual basis by making use of quality testing and analysis instruments, and continues to update the current MSDS database. The agency also performs workplace technical support projects for assessment of reliability of current MSDS to ensure updated MSDS at each workplace.

Utilization of MSDS DB in the last three years

•

Item	2005	2004	2003
Utilization	596,442	341,411	282,003

### 5-2. Studies on Toxicity of Chemical Substances

KOSHA predicts harmfulness of chemical substances not identified of toxicity to human bodies by executing study on toxic mechanism through various toxicity tests such as genetic toxicity, inhalation toxicity, dermal toxicity and other toxicity tests with microorganisms and experimental animals, and contributes to prevention of health trouble of workers by supplying toxicity data for work environment management.

### 5-3. Tests and Assessment of Harmfulness of Chemical Substances

KOSHA performs studies, tests and assessment for prevention of chemical accidents caused by unstable thermal properties or exothermic reaction of chemical substances, and provides hazardousness information of chemical substances such as physical and chemical properties, and characteristics of fire and explosion. In addition, the agency reviews hazardousness and risk of new chemical substances reported by employers in standpoint of technologies, and then suggests engineering and hygienic measures for protection of workers' health.

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Targets and Promotion of Project for Prevention of Occupational Accidents in 2005

- Financial Support for Accident Prevention on Sites Vulnerable to Occupational Accident
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## International Cooperation

KOSHA actively drives exchange of information and introduction of advance techniques through enhancing cooperative activities with many overseas industrial accident prevention organizations and other international institutes. The agency also performs technical support projects for accident prevention in underdeveloped countries to execute its duties as a member of Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The agency, jointly with ILO and ISSA, hosts the 18th World Industrial Safety and Health Convention in Seoul, Korea from Jun. 29 till Jul. 4, 2008 to contribute to the prevention of industrial accidents through exchange of experiences and information on prevention of industrial accidents and occupational diseases between experts of safety and health participating in the convention from every corner of the world.

### 1. Enhancement of Cooperative Activities with Expert Institutes and International Organizations for Prevention of Industrial Accidents

KOSHA has committed its best endeavors to improve level of accident prevention technologies through joint studies and meetings with various advanced industrial accident prevention institutes in different fields: TUV Rheinland Berlin-Brandenburg (TUEV) and Berufsgenossenschaften (BGG) in Germany, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), National Safety Council (NSC) and Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) in U.S., and Health and Safety Laboratory (HSL) in U.K. Further, the agency has exchanged techniques and information and held international seminars jointly with the renowned international

organizations through establishing cooperative systems with them including: International Labor Organization (ILO), International Standard Organization (ISO), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EASHW), and Asia Pacific Occupational Safety and Health Organization (APOSHO).

## **2. Technical Support for Prevention of Accidents in Countries under Development**

KOSHA has contributed to improvement of industrial safety and health in the countries under development through transfer of techniques for industrial accident prevention developed in Korea. So far in 2005, the agency invited 32 officials responsible for safety and health from 13 countries in Asia, and provided 4 countries with technical consultation services to transfer the industrial accident prevention techniques of KOSHA.

## **3. World Congress on Safety and Health at Work**

KOSHA holds the 18th World Industrial Safety and Health Convention in 2008 jointly with International Labour Organization (ILO) and International Social Security Association (ISSA). At the convention, with experts in the industrial safety health area around the world participated in, KOSHA will introduce advanced industrial accident prevention systems in Korea through enhanced exchange of information and techniques with various programs. The agency will establish intimate cooperative systems with international organizations and other relevant institutes in EU, U.K. and Japan to well getting ready for successful progress of the Congress in 2008.

## **4. Operation of Information Center**

KOSHA posted the glossary of the terms pertinent to industrial safety and health on its web site (<http://www.kosha.net>), which is used popularly in the concerned areas, and been compiled systematically. The target users of the glossary include those majoring in safety engineering, and staff in the field safety & health workplaces. The glossary consists of terminologies of machinery, electricity, chemicals, construction, industrial medical science and safety management as well as administrative terms relevant to education and public relations pertinent to safety. KOSHA plans to continuously post the terms on KOSHANET, and to publish and distribute the glossary in 4,000 hardcopies in Jun., 2006 after supplementing any missed terms. KOSHA published the directory of industrial safety and health glossary consisting of 2,871 terms in 500 pages in 1991. The revised dictionary has significantly been supplemented containing some 3,600 terms.

Meantime, KOSHA translates and distributes professional technical data from advanced countries for subjects deemed important for activities of industrial safety and health in Korea to assist concerned people to make references to cases and actions that have been taken for the cases. In particular, KOSHA earned good reputation from those responsible for safety by translating, publishing and distributing 'Safety for construction of molds and prefabricated scaffolds,' the data for safety in construction businesses in Japan, 'Getting to Grips with Manual Handling A Short' from Health & Safety Executives (HSE) in U.K., and four of the accident investigation reports for

preventing major industrial accidents from Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) at the timeframe for emphasizing prevention of industrial accidents at construction sites and chemicals plants. Further, KOSHA has been operating APOSHO's homepage (HYPERLINK "<http://www.aposho.org>" ) for cooperation activities for safety and health through information exchange with the concerned organizations in the world over Internet The homepage was renewed of design and configuration, and added with a forum page for active communication and information exchange between visitors. A function enabling posting replies to any other posted comments has also been enhanced. Please contact [aposho@kosha.net](mailto:aposho@kosha.net) for further information on the homepage.

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report

- **summary**

- out of 11,059,193 employees working at 1,130,094 workplaces covered by the industrial accident compensation insurance act, casualties requiring medical care for a period of 4 or more days numbered 85,411 as of 2005. the accident rate in 2004 was 0.77%.
- compared to 2004, the number of workers decreased by 5.6%, number of casualties by 3.9%, and accident rate by 0.08%p.
- due to dramatic shift in nation's economy under the control of imf in 1998 and 1999, the number of casualties and accident rate showing a continuous decreasing trend witnessed a rapid decline, followed by an increasing trend. the number of workplaces covered by the industrial accident compensation insurance act was increased to include those with at least 1 employee in July 2000. this has caused a significant increase in the number of casualties since 2001.

**table 1: number of casualties and accident rate per year**

**no. of casualties**

**accident rate**

- **fatalities**

- number of fatalities was 2,493, among which 1,398 were from occupational accidents, and 1,095 from occupational diseases.
- fatalities per 10,000 people was 2.25, which is a figure reduced by 2.70p from those in 2004. the top three causes of fatal accidents are cerebrovascular/heart disease (608 fatalities), pneumoconiosis (430) and falls to lower level (416).
- number of fatalities has consistently been increased since 1998 due to growth of number of victims from occupational diseases, while fatalities per 10,000 people decreased since 1994.

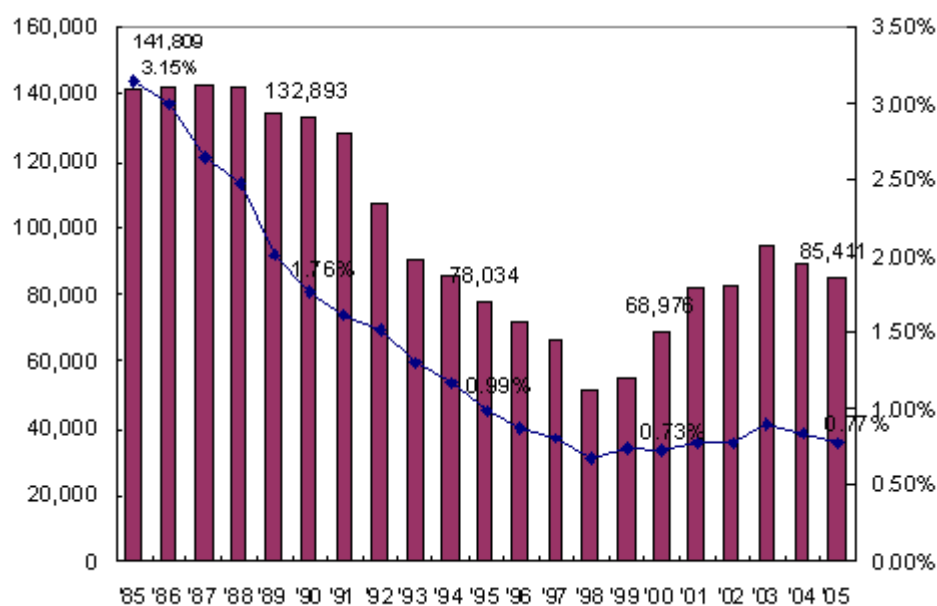


table 1: number of casualties and accident rate per year

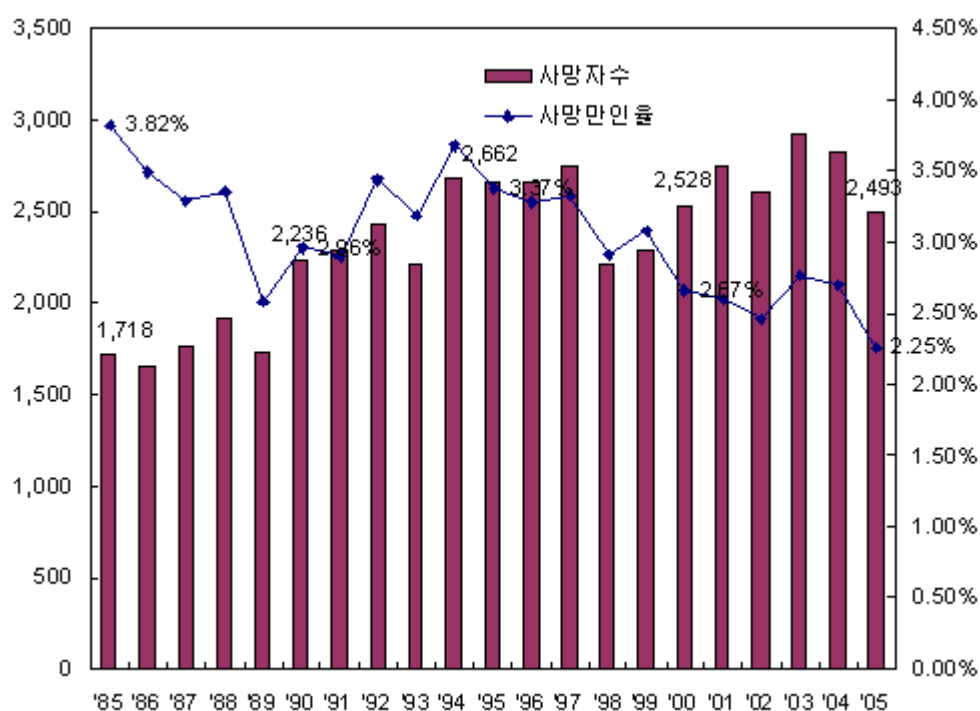
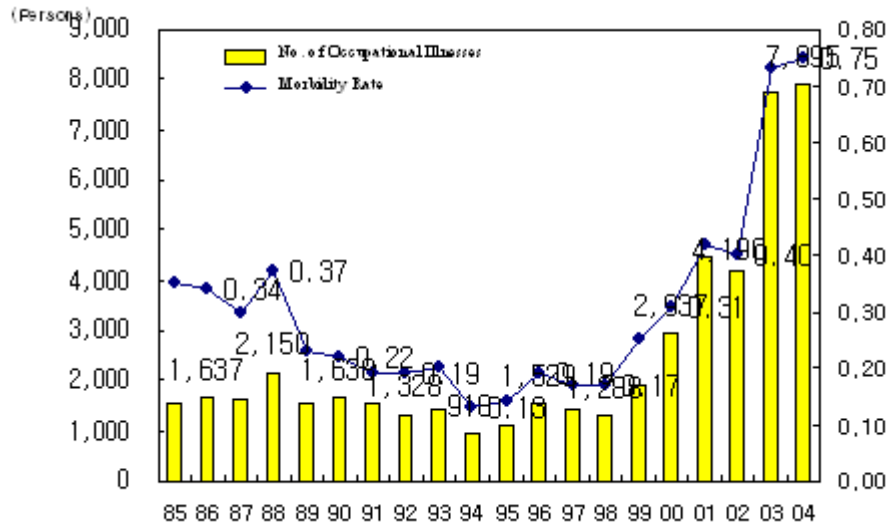


table 2: number of fatalities and fatality rate per 10,000 persons people by year

- **occupational illness**

- patients suffering from occupational illness in 2004 numbered 7,895, an increase of 155 persons (or 2.0%) compared to the previous year's 7,740 persons.
- in particular, work-related diseases accounted for 2046 cases of the total in 2004, representing an increase of 623 persons (43.8%) over the previous year's 1,423 persons. the number of patients suffering from work-related illnesses was 5,849, representing a decrease by 468 (7.4%) over the prior year of 6,317 persons.

- coverage by the industry accident compensation insurance has been expanded to include "workers' pneumoconiosis" (grade 13 disease) in occupational illness (including death) (effective July 1, 2003), which represented an increase of 623 persons in 2004 over the prior year's figure.



**table 3: number of occupational illnesses and morbidity rate per year**

- disaster index
  - accident rate: number of casualties/number of workers covered by the casualty compensation insurance  $\times 100$
  - fatality rate per 10,000 persons: number of fatalities/number of workers covered by the casualty compensation insurance  $\times 10,000$
  - morbidity rate: number of cases involving occupational illness/number of workers covered by the casualty compensation insurance  $\times 1,000$



# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report

- Number of Employees
- Contact Information

## number of employees

total	headquarters	research institute	training institute	regional headquarters	instruction office
		(1)	(1)	(3)	(17)
1,319	175	154	46	234	710

# 2005 Annual Report

HOME > > About KOSHA > Annual Report > 2005 Annual Report > Appendix

- Number of Employees
- **Contact Information**

## Contact Information

- 

Office	Location	Phone	FAX	Postal Code
CLUB OF KOSHA	Gusan-dong, Bupyeonggu Incheon, 34-4	(032)5100-500	512-8311	403-120
OSHRI OF KOSHA	Gusan-dong, Bupyeonggu Incheon, 34-4	(032)5100-831~4	518-6483	403-120
EDU OF KOSHA	Gusan-dong, Bupyeonggu Incheon, 34-4	(032)5100-945~8	513-2749	403-120
Headquater of Seoul Area OF KOSHA	Yuhan building 14 floor, DeaBang-dong, Dongjakgu Seoul, 49-6	(02)828-1600	828-1629	156-754
Area NorthernSeoulOF KOSHA	Bongnae-dong 1-ga, 10 (Woori Building 7~8th floor),	(02)3783-8300	3783-8309	100-161
Area Incheon OF KOSHA	Gajung-dong 491, Sugu, Incheon	(032)5707-200	574-6176	404-803
Area SouthernKyeonggi OF KOSHA	Iui-dong san 111-8,Paldal-gu,Suwon-si (Gyeonggi small and medium enterprises)	(031)259-7149	259-7110	442-270
Area NorthernKyeonggi OF KOSHA	Uijeongbu 2-dong 567-1, Gyeonggi-do (Solbutbuilding 5th floor)	(031)841-4900	878-1541	480-850
Area SouthernKyeonggi OF KOSHA	Gojan-dong 519, Ansan, (KiupBankBuilding 2,3 floor)	(031)4817-599	414-0048	425-020
Area Gangwon OF KOSHA	Onui-dong,513 Chuncheon-si, Gangwon-do(Korean Teacher's Mutual Fund Building 2nd floor)	(033)243-8310	243-8315	200-938
Area Busan OF KOSHA	Banyeo 1-dong 1486-49, Haeundae-gu, Busan	(051)526-1006	526-1007	612-815

Office	Location	Phone	FAX	Postal Code
Area Daegu OF KOSHA	Namsan-dong 375, Jung-gu, Daegu(Allianz Life Insurance Buliding 8th floor)	(053)609-0500	356-0084	700-723
Area Ulsan OF KOSHA	Dal-dong 615-8, Nam-gu, Ulsan(KookminBank Building)	(052)2260-515	260-6997	680-030
Area Eastern Gyeongbuk OF KOSHA	Jukdo 2-dong 703-30(HwangJea Building), Buk-gu, Pohang-si,Gyeongsangbuk-do	(054)271-2000	271-2019	791-845
Area Northern Gyeongbuk OF KOSHA	Songjung-dong 34-2 (Samwon Building 3~6th floor) , Gumi-si, Gyeongbuk	(054)453-0100	453-0104	730-912
Area Gyeongnam OF KOSHA	Yongho-dong 7-3, Changwon-si, Gyeongsangnam-do	(055)269-0560	269-0590	641-727
Area Gwangju OF KOSHA	Usan-dong 1589-1, Gwangsan-gu, Gwangju (Trade Hall Building)	(062)949-8700	943-8278	506-721
Area Daejeon OF KOSHA	Ojeong-dong449-7, Daedeok-gu, Daejeon	(042)6205-600	625-3217	306-819
Area ChungbukOF KOSHA	Gagyeong-dong 1171 (KT Building 3rd floor),Heungdeok-gu, Cheongju-si,Chungcheongbuk-do	(043)2307-111	236-0371	361-800
Area ChungnamOF KOSHA	Seongjeong-dong 721-8, Cheonan-si,Chungcheongnam-do (LG High Plaza Building)	(041)570-3400	579-8906	330-170
Area Jeonbuk of KOSHA	Inhu-dong 1-ga 807-8(Ministry of Labor synthetic Government building 4th floor ), Deokjingu, Jeonju	(063)240-8500	245-4912	561-708
Area Eastern Jeonnam-do of KOSHA	SunWon-dong 1285, Yeosu	(061)689-4900	689-4990	555-801
Area Jeju of KOSHA	Yeon-dong 251-1 (Daishin securities Building) Jeju-si Jeju-do	(064)7488-321	747-5463	690-813