

Smartphone, new guardian for chemical factory

KOSHA releases AppBook about information on prevention of chemical accidents including safety measures during maintenance or repair work

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- Amid a series of accidents during repair or maintenance work at chemical factories in the first half of this year, information about safe work process has become available in real time on smartphones to safety supervisors and workers.
- KOSHA has recently developed and released AppBook, e-book for smartphones or tablet computers, which provides information about must-follow safety measures during maintenance or repair work at chemical factories.
- The AppBook is unique in that safety supervisors or workers can have a real time access to the information according to the different stages of repair or maintenance work.
 - Key information includes “Safety measures before start-up,” “Checklist for purging,” “Measurement of gas leakage,” and “Safe way to insert or remove blind flange.”
 - The AppBook divides maintenance and repair work into three groups – hot work in silo, check before start-up, and shut-down inspection of dangerous substance storage tank – and a checklist for each group is given.
 - The AppBook also provides causes of fire, explosion, and gas leakage at chemical factories and their countermeasures to help design plans to prevent similar accidents.
- For further information, you can download “Knowledge repositories (*Jisikchoongjunso*)” from Android’s Play Store or Apples’ App Store onto smartphones and see “Safety measures during maintenance and repair work at chemical factories.”
 - You can also download the pdf file from Media Bank section in KOSHA’s homepage (www.kosha.or.kr).
- KOSHA is currently distributing a manual for preventing blackouts at chemical factories amid unstable power supply in summer to prevent chemical accidents and is trying to intensify preventive efforts by signing MOUs on chemical accidents prevention with five societies including Korea Safety Society.
- One official from KOSHA said, “Business owners and workers are the ones who know best about on-site problems and risk factors.” “Hopefully the AppBook can help identify and eliminate risk factors at chemical factories beforehand to stop ever-occurring chemical accidents,” the official added.



※ List of accidents at chemical factories in the first half of 2013

When	Where	Company	Substance that caused accidents	Cause	Personal injury
Jan 11	Jeonju	Miwon Commercial	Inflammable vapor	Explosion of centrifuge due to inflammable vapor	One dead
Jan 12	Sangju	Woongjin Polysilicon	35% hydrochloric acid	Leakage due to pipe rupture	No personal injury
Mar 5	Gumi	Gumi Chemical	Chlorine	Backflow due to breakdown in cleaner equipment	One injured
Mar 14	Yeosu	Daelim	Polyethylene dust and more	Explosion during repair work	Six dead, eleven injured
Mar 25	Hwaseong	Dongjin Semichem	Acetic acid	Leakage of acetic acid solution due to damaged temporary wastes container	Two injured
Apr 14	Ulsan	Samsung Fine Chemicals	Chlorine gas	Chlorine gas leakage from FRP connecting to scrubber	Six mildly injured