

- **2001 Main Projects**

- Projects for occupational accident prevention promoted by KOSHA in 2001

- Objectives and focal points of implementation -

- Objectives**

- Provide occupational accident prevention technical services centered around users - Prevent conventional type industrial accident that might occur at business establishments with employees numbering less than 50**

- Points to be stressed**

- Strengthen technical support related to safety and health at small business establishments.
 - Support voluntary safety management at medium and large business establishments.
 - Provide priority support for the accident prevention activities for dangerous construction work.
 - Expand health promotion campaign to prevent occupational diseases.
 - Activate practical R&D that can be applied at site.
 - Strengthen education and publicity activities to promote safety consciousness.

- **UPDATE in KOREA**

- New types of occupational diseases have increased significantly - Brain and heart diseases have increased by 63%

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- The accident rate last year showed a level similar to that of 1999; however, the number of patients suffering from new types of occupational diseases has increased rapidly. The Ministry of Labor disclosed February 8 that the accident rate last year was 0.73% (estimated) which is lower than that of 1999 (0.74%) by 0.01%.**

On the other hand, the number of employee influenced by occupational accident was 69,000 (estimated), an increase by 24.5% over that of the previous year (55,405). Even the number of deaths recorded 2,532, or an increase by 10.5% over that of the previous year (2,291). From January to November, there were 3,098 workers suffering from occupational diseases, a level lower than that of the previous year by 27.4% (2,432). The number of patients who fell victims to new types of occupational diseases (diseased related to job), such as the brain and heart diseases in particular, accounted for 2,239, a 63.7% year-on-year increase.

Meanwhile, the number of existing occupational patients suffering from such diseases as the hardness of hearing and heavy metal toxication was 859 or a decrease by 19.3% compared with that of the previous year. "Since it became compulsory for a business establishment with

employees numbering less than 5 to effect a workmen's accident compensation insurance starting from the latter half of the previous year, the number of victims has increased greatly.", said an official from the Ministry of Labor. "The increase rate of the full-time workers last year was slightly higher than the occupational accident increase rate, indicating stabilized trends of accident rate." (The Korea Economics Daily, February 9, 2001)

- Major work plans established by the Ministry of Health and Welfare for this year

One of the noteworthy programs planned by the Ministry of Health and Welfare is the 'Regional Community Senior Club' system under which senior citizens participate in various fields of work such as the law-abiding guide, crime prevention, security guard work, services, and management support. This system is scheduled to be implemented as a model case in 3 to 5 cities from this year.

In addition, in order to promote the intention to work for low-income group, the government starting in 2002 will operate a workers' income deduction system under which the government pays a specific percentage of the earned money to the government subsidized people from the government budget as a merit system.

Reinforcing the health insurance funds

The government will positively examine the introduction of a medical saving system and a system under which patients pay full amount for small medical expenses. To minimize insurance payment, the government plans to reduce the insurance medical price by 10%, and increase the government subsidy rate from 30.2% to 40% by 2005. The government also intends to increase the insurance premium collection rate up to 97% and convert the 650,000 dependents of the income earners into the insured, ultimately saving 700 billion won up to 1 trillion won annually.

Improvement of medical benefits

The government plans to cover the high-priced medicine and treatment materials used to treat intractable diseases such as the child leukemia and chronic kidney disease, and other preventive measures such as the child vaccinations under the insurance system. The government also plans to lower the patients eligible for class 1 medical protection where the entire medical expenses are paid by the government from the age of 65 older to the age of 61 or older. If a patient eligible for class 2 medical protection requires treatment for a period of 2 months or longer, such patient will be converted to one eligible for the class 1 medical protection.

Operation of a senior club in local community

A 'Regional community senior club' will be operated as a model case sometime during the first half by professional organization, religious organization and senior citizen welfare center in 3 to 5 large cities like Seoul and Incheon. If the results are satisfactory, such clubs will be expanded to 1 or 2

places in each city and province starting from next year.

strong>Medical examination covering 5 major cancers to be conducted for all people

The government will examine all the people for 5 major cancers of stomach, liver, large intestine, uterus and breast by 2005. To create a cancer check-up foundation covering all the people, free examination of low-income class and a health insurance examination project will gradually be expanded, and national consciousness with respect to early cancer examination promoted through the development of a standard examination program. To prevent the occurrence of disorders, all newborn infants will be checked for inborn error of metabolism.

Support provided for civilian gene research activities

The government will establish a central gene research center under the control of the National Health Institute, and a Korean specimen gene and disease-related gene bank will be constructed. To activate gene research by civilian sector, well-established university annex hospitals will be designated as gene research centers to study 12 main diseases including cancer, heart disease, and diabetes. For the 10 forthcoming years, the government will provide 500,000,000 won as subsidies for each center, providing active support to these centers through the central gene research center operating under the control of the National Health Institute.

Expansion of attending system

In order to overlapping investment in the high-price equipment such as the echo- graphic equipment and X-ray machines, the government will actively induce the revitalization of an Attending System where hospitals and medical clinics in the vicinity utilize the medical facilities operated by large hospitals.

(Maeil Business Newspaper, February 1, 2001)

- Special care center for occupational patients constructed

- The MOL announced a rehabilitation program under which expanded medical services will be provided starting in the latter half of 2003. -

The number of braces will be increased significantly, and starting in the latter half of 2003, the 1~3rd grade serious cases who are unable to receive treatment due to family situation event though they need continued care after treatment will receive various services from the special care centers. In addition, the re-employment rate of the occupational patient will be improved greatly from the current 37%.

The Ministry of Labor disclosed February 7 a '5-year occupational patient rehabilitation project' containing the above-said project. According to the program, a special care center will be constructed in Hwasung-gun, Kyonggi Province in the latter half of 2003 to provide care and health

management services to the serious occupational patients.

There are 8 special care centers in Japan; however, this is the first program ever planned by the government. The center will offer variegated services including the special care for the serious patients, housekeeping support services, and family-accompanied care. There found 2,727 of 1~3rd grade serious patients suffered by occupational disease during the past 5 years.

In connection with this, the Ministry of Labor plans to increase the rehabilitation budgets every year for the occupational patients, with an ultimate plan to increase the current re-employment rate of 37% to 70% by 2005. Also included in the plan is to expand the number of rehabilitation service beneficiaries to some 60,000 from the current 15,000. Currently, braces are classified into 67 items under 12 types of brace. This will be increased to 90 items under 20 types of brace. Furthermore, the government will operate a lumbago school specializing in the spine rehabilitation program for the lumbago patients that comprise 37% of the total industrial patients.

"From now on, the occupational patients' request will change to the expansion of the rehabilitation services rather than seeking monetary compensation.", said an official from the Ministry of Labor adding, "Even the demand by the elderly occupational patients carrying slim chances of returning to work, or other patients suffering from occupational disease such as coniotoxicosis will be accommodated." According to the Ministry of Labor, during the past 10 years, the number of 1~14th grade occupational patients eligible for the rehabilitation program services, including the 35,000 serious patients, was estimated to be approximately 300,000.

(The Korea Labor Daily News, February 8, 2001)

- Industrial products not meeting safety standard to be recalled starting in July

Starting in the forthcoming July, a recall system will be applied to Industrial products not meeting safety standard for immediate replacement, refund or repairs. The industrial product safety inspection will be unified into a prior inspection system from the current dual system where inspection is divided into a prior inspection and a post inspection.

The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy disclosed on the 2nd' January that it will enact a 'Quality Management and Industrial Product Safety Control Act' covering the above-said contents and start enforcing it starting in July.

According to the draft bill, in case an industrial product subject to safety inspection fails to meet inspection standards, the government will order relevant manufacturers or importers to directly destroy or recall such product at their own expenses. It will also disclose related facts in the press media according to the degree of damage, and order the replacement, refund, or repair the

relevant industrial product. Meanwhile, the current industrial product safety control system which divides the industrial products subject to safety inspection into those subject to prior inspection and those subject to post inspection will be changed to a new system. The new system calls for all products subject to safety inspection to be inspected by a designated inspection agency prior to shipment.

Along with this, the government will allow a private certification agency, approved by a government-designated certification institution, to issue a quality management system(ISO9000) certification.

(The Hankyoreh Daily, January 3, 2001)

- Samsung Electronics' Suwon plant acquired OHSAS 18001 certification from the UL in the U.S.

Samsung Electronics' Suwon plant in the last November acquired OHSAS 18001 certification, an international certification standard for a safety and health management system, from the UL in the U.S.

UL is an internationally recognized safety and quality, and environmental system certification agency, along with the BSI of Britain.

The company stated that it had acquired ISO 14001 certification from BSI, and OHSAS 18001 from UL for the first time among the domestic enterprises. The company explained that the acquisition of the international certification covering environment and safety enables Samsung Electronics to effectively cope with the trade barriers, such as the Blue Round.

(The Korea Economics Daily, November 23, 2000)

- **UPDATE in KOSHA**

- KOSHA's OSH exhibition room redecorated for guests
 - Regional Labor Offices identify vulnerable workplaces

The exhibition room located on the 1st floor of the KOSHA Head Office, which used to provide information on the Agency and on safety and health to visitors and viewers has been renovated during the past 3 months, and opened on March 7 in a new figure. Since the exhibition room was opened for the first time at the end of 1995, it has been loved by visitors, officials from the related domestic and overseas institutions, workers, students, and the general public as an information center where the importance of safety is promoted.

As the operation of the exhibition hall for 5 years, it became necessary to improve it to provide diversified attractions to the visitors and viewers and promote educational effects. To do this, it was necessary to change exhibits to those satisfying the recent changes in the industrial

environment and improve the building into a new exhibition hall which uses video and Internet systems and other advanced exhibition techniques.

KOSHA began renovation starting in December last year, and introduced a newly decorated building on March 7 after 3 months. Unlike the old exhibition room which used to display items by safety, construction, and health separately, this new 400 exhibition room is composed of accident characteristics classified by case, preventive measures, spot display, provision of experience space, computer-based question and answer system, and an information search corner.

In order to connect with the virtual safety training center hall after visitors inspect the exhibition center, the exhibition center was reorganized in such a way that the visitors can gradually understand the seriousness of occupational accidents, and the necessity to prevent accidents, and learn the knowledge on safety and health.



(Safety & Health(KOSHA), February 2001)

- A virtual safety training center operated

Starting in March, KOSHA will operate a virtual safety training center inside the KOSHA Exhibition Center located on the first floor of the Corporation head office for safety and health related persons and the general public. The virtual safety training center uses computerized virtual reality technology. This is a high-tech educational place where the viewer tours the harmful and dangerous workplace such as the press work through the real-time, 3-dimensional video system to find risk factors and experience the process of accidents. The place shows computer graphic aided 3-dimensional image, and provides safety and health education through the use of multimedia training materials. Currently, visitors can appreciate 4 types of operation programs such as the

manufacturers' press work, electrical arc work, conveyer work, and transporting/loading work, and a 3-dimensional image just as they were patrolling the metal product manufacturers' plants. Future plan calls for the development of a virtual reality and 3-dimensional image program so that the visitor can experience risk elements at the construction site, home and schools.

System composition

- 2 units of Graphic workstation, 2 LCD Projectors, 5.2m silver screen, A/V equipment, and control systems

Operation

- Operating hours : 09:00~17:00
- Viewing time : 50 minutes
- Admission : Free
- Seating capacity : 30
- Application : e-mail: vrstc@kosha.net
- Place : first floor of KOSHA Head Office





- KOSHA2000 project certification team for construction industry organized

KOSHA January 13 organized a voluntary safety management system certification team covering construction sector and held an inauguration ceremony at the KOSHA head office.

The construction industry KOSHA 2000 program means a system established to help a construction site build a voluntary safety and health management system. The Agency provides training and technical support and objectively evaluate the results. When the results reach a specific level, KOSHA presents a [KOSHA 2000 program] certificate and certification plaque, and provide post support to continuously maintain the safety and health management system.

Subjects of evaluation include a safety and health management system (establishment of policies and objectives, setting up and operation of plans), safety and health activities level (Safety manager activities, legal safety training, and publicity activities related to safety and health), and the interviews with the safety and health managers. Details of these factors are surveyed and evaluated prior to issuing certification. Post evaluation is carried out every year for a business establishment after the certification is issued, and the status is managed for 3 years.

During the first half of the year, the KOSHA plans to conduct a special training (40 hours) for the KOSHA employees and related persons at the business establishment to foster evaluation specialists, and develop risk evaluation techniques applicable to construction site. Full-scale certification business will start in July.

(Safety & Health(KOSHA), January 2001)

- A presentation session held for the R&D activities carried out on the prevention of electrical shocks

At 13:00, February 13 (Tues), KOSHA held a presentation session for the R&D activities carried out on the prevention of electrical shocks at the grand auditorium of the head office.

This R&D presentation was held to prevent electrical shock and fire by publicizing the results of R&D activities to general homes and industrial sites. The R&D activities were carried out in 2000 by KOSHA's electrical accident preventive team (Team Chief YOO, Bo-Hyuk), jointly with the electrical system room of the scientific technology research center of Hong Ik University (Research staff Prof. Chung Hun), Origin (Representative Bang Ki-Sun), and Yusin Enterprise Co., Ltd. (Representative: Yoo Jong-Woon)

The presentation began with the introduction of the R&D background by Yoo Bo-Hyuk, the electrical accident preventative team chief. followed by the research report presented by Prof. Kim Jung-Hoon of Hong Ik University regarding the development of the earth resistance rate measuring program, and research into the mobile generator grounding methods. After this, the electrical accident preventive team and the senior research staff of the joint developer reported on preventing electrical shock caused by the broadcast wave organic potential, and the development of electrical safety devices.

[Major contents of presentation]

- Research into the development of the earth resistance rate measuring program
- Research into the mobile generator grounding methods
- Research into the prevention of electrical shock caused by the broadcast wave organic potential
- R&D activities on electrical safety devices
 - * Leakage breaker testing device and leakage detector
 - * Electrical safety alarm clock
 - * Flameproof uniform and face protective gears

(Safety & Health(KOSHA), January 2001)

- KOSHANET safety and health information search contest held

On December 19 and 20 last year, KOSHA held a safety and health information search contest with the KOSHANET(Intergrated Information Tele- communications Service on Safety & Health) members participating.

This contest was held to promote KOSHANET users' ability to search and use the safety and health

information provided the domestic and overseas Internet in addition to the information provided by KOSHANET, and to expand the KOSHANET information utilization. Prizes were presented by drawing lots to 30 persons including Kim Oh-Hwan, Hyundai Heavy Industries environment research center among those who answered all of the 10 questions correctly.

KOSHANET service means the provision of information by KOSHA on safety and health to all business establishments in the country. Services began on July 1, 1996 with approximately 50,000 user members. It not only provides safety and health information, but also provides many other information as a means of exchanging information. -> <http://www.kosha.net>







[The KOSHA staffs are drawing lots for 30 prize men]
(Safety & Health(KOSHA), January 2001)

- **NEW MATERIALS**

- Audio-visual education materials related to the occupational accident prevention prepared for foreign workers.
KOSHA produced audio-visual educational materials such as video tape related to the occupational accident prevention prepared for foreign workers in their native language. The purpose is to conduct safety training in order to promote the occupational accidents prevention training effects. 4 types of video have been dubbed and distributed in 5 languages (English, Chinese, Indonesian, Vietnamese and Bangladesh)

The 4 video tapes contain important safety procedures that can be applied in common to ordinary industrial sites, and information on the press work safety, prevention of lumbago, and risk factors at construction sites.(See the table below)

Audio-visual education materials

Title	Major contents	Show time
Daddy's safety rules		<p>Comical explanations are given regarding helmet, fires and explosions, prevention of slipping, safety goggles, ladder work, work uniform, handling of dangerous materials, gas mask, electric work, handling of manual tools, wearing of ear cover, cleaning and arranging, and transporting goods.</p> <p>40 minutes</p>
Press work safety		<p>Explanations are given regarding press types and structure, protective gears, and safe working methods for beginners and new employees.</p> <p>16 minutes</p>
Prevention of workers' lumbago		<p>Method of preventing lumbago caused by improper handling of heavy materials and preventive exercise introduced.</p> <p>20 minutes</p>
Is our work site safe?		<p>The enormous extent of casualties and property damage caused by construction-related accidents and serious accidents occurred at the site of bridge and apartment construction are explained and demonstrated by a reporter who visited the site in order to examine preventive measures, and to show safe work and facilities at a model construction site.</p> <p>30 minutes</p>

(Safety & Health(KOSHA), January 2001)