

2009 Newsletter

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Protecting Worker's Life and Health KOSHA Newsletter

August 2009

- **Top Issues**

- The Celebration of the 1st Anniversary of the Seoul Declaration on Health and Safety at Work
 - Occupational Health and Safety: The Responsibility of Society

The KOSHA held an international event with the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the International Social Security Association (ISSA) at COEX on June 29 to celebrate the first anniversary of the 'Seoul Declaration on Health and Safety at Work', which was adopted at the Health and Safety Summit of the 18th World Congress on Health and Safety at Work, held on June 29, 2008.

This event included presentations on the activities of each organization targeting the implementation of the Seoul Declaration by Director Toru Itani of the Labor Protection Department of the ILO, President Corazon de la Paz-Bernardo of the ISSA, and Director-General for Training and Public Relation Dae-yeol Choi of KOSHA. It also included the signature ceremony where the representatives of 19 foreign organizations, including the Ministry of Labor of the Philippines, and 37 domestic organizations, including the Korea Industrial Safety Association, resolved to support and implement the Seoul Declaration on Health and Safety at Work, and a panel discussion that included President Kazutaka Kogi of the International Commission on Occupational Health.

President of KOSHA said in his welcoming speech that everyone must remind themselves of the principle of the Seoul Declaration; the right to work at a safe and pleasant workplace is the fundamental human right of every worker and the investment in health and safety returns corporate profits. Each member of society must contribute to helping form a healthier society that is free from accidents and disease.

As the organization that developed and drove the adoption of the Seoul Declaration, the KOSHA will continue to cooperate with the ILO and ISSA to spread the culture of protecting health and safety throughout the world by expanding and practicing its principles.

- Six Special Measures to Prevent Industrial Accidents in the Second Half KOSHA,
 - Providing Extensive Support Covering Businesses with Less Than Five Employees

Accident prevention projects will be implemented in full for the black spots for occupational accidents, such as the service industry, forestry, and across business categories in companies with

less than five employees and that are vulnerable to occupational accidents.

The KOSHA held the 2nd Meeting of Affiliated Organizations for 2009 in the presence of section chiefs, bureau directors, and presidents of affiliated organizations on June 26. The participants of the meeting discussed six special measures to reduce occupational accidents in full in the second half, hoping to decrease the number of occupational accident victims by 10,000.

The Six Special Measures are Δ Strengthening Occupational Accident Prevention Activities in the Service Industry Δ Developing a Cooperative System to Prevent Accidents in Forestry and Strengthening Safety Training Δ Intensive Support for Business Categories in Companies with Less Than Five Employees and that are Vulnerable to Occupational Accidents Δ Special Management of Workplaces with a Frequent Occurrence of Large Scale Accidents Δ Preparing Accident Prevention Measures in Relation to the Hope Project Including for the Public Service Δ Increasing the Efficiency of the Existing Accident Prevention Project The Six Special Measures include stronger preventive measures for the service industry and forestry, which have recently emerged as black spots in terms of occupational accidents, while continuously pushing forward programs for those classes of people and business categories traditionally vulnerable to occupational accidents.

The KOSHA also shared best practices in developing a multilateral cooperative system with local governments, strengthening parent company-partner support to prevent accidents in the shipbuilding industry, developing and operating a consultative committee for construction sites in the region, and accident prevention programs suitable for regional characteristics. The Six Special Measures will be prepared immediately following the Occupational Health and Safety Week in July, and the KOSHA will notify all affiliated organizations of the need to implement the measures in full.

At the meeting, President of KOSHA asked participants to "remember the role of KOSHA, which stands in the center of accident elimination as the leading organization for preventing occupational accidents and which is working hard to accomplish the goal of reducing the number of occupational accident victims by 10,000 through Six Special Measures for reducing occupational accidents in the second half."

- **Korea's OSH News**

- Stronger Health Management System for Foreign Workers
 - The Ministry of Labor Provides Health Examination Results in Ten Languages

The Ministry of Labor is providing health examination results in ten different languages to strengthen the health management of foreign employees and also strengthen interpretation and consultation services in health examinations. The Ministry of Labor announced on July 27 a decision to provide health examination results in ten different languages so that foreign employees could

manage their health appropriately based on the health examination results, and also to prepare materials explaining each item of the health examination and distribute them to concerned organizations and businesses employing foreign employees. Foreign employees took regular health examinations provided for in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, but had difficulties and limits in understanding their health conditions and how to manage their health, as the results were supplied in Korean only. To eliminate these difficulties and limitations, the Ministry of Labor decided to provide the health examination results for foreign employees in the ten different languages of English, Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Mongolian, Indonesian, Urdu, Bengali, Russian, and Sri Lankan.

Health examination results are also written in Korean so that foreign employees could also ask their Korean co-workers about the examination results. The translated information and explanatory materials will be also distributed to five foreign worker support centers around the nation to be used for health examinations and management. The Ministry is also strengthening the interpretation and consultation services for foreign employees in relation to the health examination.

The Ministry of Labor developed a three-party interpretation system in light of the fact that the health examination information includes medical terms and expert knowledge that even native Koreans may struggle to understand. The intention is for foreign employees to get access to expert consultation services while talking to foreign worker support center personnel. Director Hyeon-Ok Jeong of the Occupational Health and Safety Bureau of the Ministry of Labor said, "We hope that foreign employees who sometimes feel alienated from the protection of health and safety find fewer difficulties in managing their health and are able to better prevent occupational disease through these services."

According to the Ministry of Labor, there were 470,000 foreign employees in Korea as of March 2009. Most of them were exposed to a dangerous work environment, with a hundred or more suffering from occupational diseases each year.

- A Maximum 20% Discount on Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance for Accident-Free Businesses with 20 or More Employees
- The Ministry of Labor, Applying Individual Rates Based on Safety Performance for Businesses with 20 or More Employees from 2011

Businesses with 20-29 full-time employees will be also entitled to a maximum 20% off premiums from 2011 if they do not have any industrial accidents.

The Ministry of Labor promulgated the 'Enforcement Decree of the Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance Act' and the 'Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Collection of Premiums, etc. of

Employment Insurance and Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance', the main idea of which is to eliminate business categories alienated from coverage of Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance and lessen the burden of insurances fees on small businesses on June 30.

The individual risk rating system gives discounts on the premiums for companies whose insurance allowance is 75% or less than the Industrial Accident Compensation premiums that the company paid for the past three years. The surcharge is applied when it exceeds 85%. It had been applied to businesses with 30 or more full-time employees, but, in accordance with the new Enforcement Decrees, the system will now be applied to businesses with 20 or more full-time employees from 2011.

However, the discount and surcharge limit for businesses with 20-29 employees is set to fall by 20% to lessen the burden on business owners, as the surcharge on the premium can increase substantially due to even less serious occupational accidents. In other words, if the insurance allowance as of June 30, 2010 is 75% of the Industrial Accident Compensation premiums of the past three years, the company is entitled to a premium discount from 2011 onwards.

The Ministry of Labor estimated that approximately 84% of small businesses might enjoy discounts worth 8.6 billion won on their premiums every year. Also, self-owned construction machine operators in 27 categories, such as dump trucks, excavators, and bulldozers, will be entitled to the benefits of Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance from July. They had not been covered by Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance regardless of the risks of occupational accidents they face, as they were considered private business owners.

The Committee on Cargo Sectors of the Economic and Social Development Commission adopted the 'Agreement for the Application of Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance to Cargo Workers' on the 10th and the government will quickly prepare the legal basis required for the organization and management of the joint industrial accident compensation insurance management organization based on this agreement. The cargo workers who provide labor in agricultural and fisheries markets comprise a signature job category not covered by Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance, as it can be difficult to consider them as employers given the characteristics of their work.

- **Worker's Health Protection Measures Against the Summer Heat**
 - **The Ministry of Labor Presents Public Relations and the Guidelines for the Health and Safety Code for Each Workplace**

As cases of abnormal overheating due to global warming are anticipated to rise, the government announced a code of conduct against extreme summer heat in each workplace to prevent accidents caused by excessive heat.

The Ministry of Labor announced on July 9 that they were enforcing 'Worker's Health Protection Measures Against the Summer Heat' in order to prevent the worsening of worker's health and reduce the risk of occupational accidents due to extreme summer heat. According to the Ministry of Labor, employees must refrain from various outdoor activities, drink a cup of cool water every 15-20 minutes during work hours, and take many short breaks, rather than a few long breaks, when a 'Heat Warning' is issued. They are also encouraged to refrain from engaging in any outdoor activities, move all work activities indoors, avoid long working hours, and take breaks during the hottest period of the day whenever a 'Heat Alarm' is issued.

The Ministry is also planning to engage in public relations activities for the code of conduct against heat and provide guidelines for high heat work environment management techniques through occupational accident prevention organizations, as well as use the websites of the Ministry of Labor and the KOSHA and electric signs to notify the public of the code of conduct against heat. Also, the Ministry is going to engage in intensive management of workplaces vulnerable to excessive heat, such as workplaces using heat in work processes, outdoor workplaces, and workplaces with confined spaces.

According to these measures, workplaces using heat in work processes, such as steel mills and glass processing plants, must install temperature and humidity control devices for cooling and ventilation, provide appropriate amounts of resting, and provide salt and beverages. Outdoor workplaces such as shipbuilding yards, ports, and construction sites must provide ice pack mounted vests and appropriate amounts of rest for long work hours in order to prevent accidents.

The 'Heat Warning' is issued when the highest temperature of the day exceeds 33°C and when the daily maximum heat index is expected to exceed 32°C for two or more days. The 'Heat Alarm' is issued when the highest temperature of the day exceeds 35°C and the daily maximum heat index is expected to exceed 41°C for two or more days.

- July is 'Asbestos Safety Month'

- The Ministry of Labor, Blanket Inspection of Asbestos Removal and Elimination Sites Without Advance Notice

While the fear of asbestos reaching a peak after recent reports on serious asbestos-related problems among residents living close to asbestos mines and cement plants, the Ministry of Labor designated July as "Asbestos Safety Month" and launched various activities in relation to the safe removal and elimination of asbestos from buildings.

Since the Asbestos Inspection System was introduced, companies are required to inspect premises for asbestos whenever they renovate or destroy a building. This has been in place due to a revision of

the Occupational Health and Safety Act and will be enforced from August 7. The Ministry of Labor designated the whole month of July as 'Asbestos Safety Month' and performed blanket inspections without advance notice at asbestos removal sites. It also conducted a range of training and public relations activities. First, the Ministry had regional presentation tours on revised asbestos regulations and guidelines for handling asbestos with 3,000 labor supervisors, KOSHA employees, local government officials in charge of construction, asbestos investigation and removal companies, and large construction companies from the end of June.

Especially for asbestos inspection and removal companies, the Ministry will provide thorough training on statutory inspection standards and safety operation standards for asbestos removal, ensuring the new regulations are fully enforced. To minimize asbestos-related risk for employees, the Ministry will also engage in intensive public relations activities through newspapers and broadcast media to provide correct information about asbestos. The Ministry is also active in informing the industry of details of the new regulations, such as preliminary inspections of asbestos and the registration system for asbestos removal companies. It is performing nationwide blanket inspections without advance notice at asbestos removal sites to prevent negligence even before the enforcement of the new regulations.

In relation to these activities, President Hyeon-Ok Jeong of the Occupational Health and Safety Bureau of the Ministry of Labor said, "We will take the 'Asbestos Safety Month' of July as a great opportunity to make the revised asbestos regulations take root at an early stage," emphasizing, "We will primarily concentrate on the supervision and monitoring of sites using asbestos to eliminate the fear of asbestos and protect people's health."

- Health and Safety Preventive Measures within the Workplace are Unsatisfactory
- 96.3% of Workplaces Violated the Occupational Health and Safety Act According to a Joint Inspection of the Labor Ministry and the Prosecution Team

Most businesses remain vulnerable to health and safety accidents and are not prepared with appropriate measures to prevent accidents and manage hazardous chemical substances. The Ministry of Labor and the Prosecution Team jointly inspected the safety management status of 1,068 businesses around the nation during the month of May, and announced on the 16th that 96.3% of the inspected workplaces, (1,029), were in violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

Judicial actions were taken for 269 out of the 1,029 companies that violated the Act, and 455 companies were charged with fines totaling 488 million won. (1,300 won = approximately 1 US dollar) Concerning the types of violations, 65.8% or 2,371 cases of all violations involved the absence of safety measures, 7.5% or 272 cases involved the absence of health and safety training, 4.4% or 158 cases involved the absence of health measures, and 3.6% or 147 cases involved the

absence of health examinations.

President Hyeon-Ok Jeong of the Occupational Health and Safety Bureau of the Ministry of Labor said, "There are limitations to reducing accidents to the levels of advanced nations based solely on the government's monitoring and supervision efforts. It is important that businesses set up and practice preventive measures before the guidance and inspection of the government," adding, "We will combine technical support programs based on risk assessment techniques and intensive inspections and monitoring to create an environment where business owners autonomously protect worker safety."

The joint inspections were performed without advance notice to check everyday health and safety status. It is meaningful that it emphasized the effectiveness of the inspections rather than the formality. 48 Regional Labor Offices around the nation organized inspection teams comprising of labor supervisors of the Ministry of Labor, employees of the Prosecutors' Office, and experts from KOSHA, inspecting the health and safety measures at workplaces for the whole month of May, according to the Labor Ministry's guidelines on joint inspections with the prosecution team.

- **KOSHA News**

- The 42nd Occupational Health and Safety Week'
 - 3Festival of Health and Safety Officials, Latest Technology and Information in One Place

The festival of occupational health and safety officials, the 42nd Occupational Health and Safety Week, (Monday to Saturday of the first week of July), was held from July 6-10 at COEX in Seoul and across other regions of Korea.

The Occupational Health and Safety Week event is held to reward those who made great contributions to the advancement and betterment of occupational health and safety at industrial sites during the year, to transfer the latest health and safety technologies, and provide a place to create a cooperative spirit among health and safety officials. The event is becoming more diverse each year.

This event strengthened the will to bring advancements to occupational health and safety in Korea based on the capacity of the country to successfully host the World Congress on Health and Safety at Work. This has secured Korea's position in occupational health and safety globally, and included a commemorative ceremony for Occupational Health and Safety Day, technical seminars, presentations of the best health and safety practices, a health and safety UCC Show, a health and safety quiz contest, a safety nursery song festival, international health and safety exhibitions, and other regional events.

Seminars were given on five topics - Securing Safe, Healthy, and Voluntary Customers, Securing Safety at Industrial Sites, Healthy Worker - Goal of Occupational Health, Correct Understanding of Asbestos and Chemicals, and Spreading Best Health and Safety Practices by Business Owners - with the motto of 'Occupational Health and Safety - The Responsibility of Society.'

At the commemorative ceremony for Occupational Health and Safety Day, awards were given to those who made significant contributions to the prevention of occupational accidents. CEO Byeong-il Jeon of DASCOR received a Bronze Tower Order of Industrial Service Merit, Manager Wan-hee Yim of POSREC received an Iron Tower Order of Industrial Service Merit, and Executive Director Yu-taek Kim of the Construction Division of Samsung Corporation received a Stone Tower Order of Industrial Service Merit. 87 others received Industrial Service Medals, President's and Prime Minister's Commendations, and Labor Minister's Commendations.

The International Health and Safety Exhibition is no longer a showing of exhibition items. It focuses on purchase consultations and marketing through planned public relations activities in order to promote the market for health and safety-related products.

- **Check Your Health and Safety Level through the Internet**
 - **3The Ministry of Labor Begins Occupational Health and Safety e-Self Diagnosis Services in August**
- From August, anyone from employers to managers and employees can check their health and safety level conveniently through the Internet.**

This will make it much easier to check what is lacking and find the right direction for autonomous improvement. The Ministry of Labor announced that the 'e-Self Diagnosis Service', a program designed to help visitors check their own or their company's occupational health and safety levels, will be available on the Ministry's homepage from August.

The e-Self Diagnosis Service is a system where the business owner, manager, and employee can check their own health and safety consciousness, health and safety culture, health and safety systems, and so on, on their own through the Internet. When the participant fills out the survey questions, he or she can check and compare his or her own marks based on the accumulated evaluation marks of previous participants. The system displays the diagnosis marks and grades in graphs so the participant can review the level of his or her health and safety consciousness and their degree of recognition concerning health and safety at a glance.

The system also makes recommendations for improvements on-line for weak areas based on the diagnosis results and provides the knowledge and information the participant requires in connection with related websites, including the KOSHA homepage and the Korea Workers' Compensation &

Welfare Service homepage.

The diagnosis is comprised of entering the participant's information, responding to surveys, checking evaluation results for each level, and making suggestions for each subject and providing related information. The e-Self Diagnosis Service is available through the Ministry of Labor homepage (<http://www.molab.go.kr>).

The Occupational Health and Safety Bureau of the Ministry of Labor said, "With the e-Self Diagnosis Service, you will be able to check your company's health and safety consciousness level at all times" adding, "the service will help companies engage in occupational accident prevention activities by encouraging them to make improvements on weak areas as they see fit and providing them with all the information they need."

- OSHRI to Join the "World's Top Five Research Institutes"

- 3Declared the Vision and Held International Seminars on the 20th Anniversary of its Opening

On the 20th anniversary of its opening, OSHRI declared its vision to become one of the world's top five research institutes in health and safety.

OSHRI of KOSHA held an international seminar and a ceremony for the 20th anniversary of its opening. The purpose was to declare its new vision in the Grand Ballroom on the 1st floor of COEX on July 6th to celebrate the 20th anniversary of its opening.

At the international seminar, an expert in occupational cancer and President of the Finland Occupational Health and Safety Research Institute, Harri Vainio, Professor Ken Takahashi of the University of Occupational and Environmental Health, Dr. Andreas Kranig of the Germany Accident Insurance Association, and President Eun-ah Kim of the Occupational Disease Research Center of OSHRI gave presentations about occupational cancer and its management system, which has been a hot topic since the link was made between asbestos and cancer. Following the international seminar, OSHRI held a ceremony to declare their vision, "Global Leader OSHRI". The organization was able to look back on their activities and accomplishments over the past 20 years and establish a direction for future activities and let everyone know their intention to become one of the world's top five research institutes in the field by 2015.

Through the event, OSHRI announced their intention to become a research institute that leads the world through the creation of new values and by quickly adapting to changing conditions and a changing environment that includes changes in the employment structure in the industry, the development of international standards for health and safety, the global needs of the time, the need to secure a new driving force for the future and to source technology, and the expansion of the

state's needs based on the reduction of occupational accidents and the creation of outcomes.

For this, OSHRI established several goals, such as strengthening its key research competence, developing a strong basis for advanced research, establishing a performance-oriented organizational culture, and developing a customer-oriented open information system. OSHRI plans to invite experts in related fields inside and outside Korea and hold international seminars on a regular basis on pending issues in the occupational health and safety field, which is currently rising in significance in society.

- Warning of the Risk of Suffocation in Confined Spaces in Summer'
 - 3Over 40% of all Suffocation Deaths from June to August

Workers need to pay special attention to activities in confined spaces such as manholes, sewage and wastewater disposal plants, and storage tanks, as the rapid increase of suffocation deaths and accidents due to oxygen deficiency and hazardous gases are anticipated in the summer months of June, July, and August.

According to the suffocation accident statistics of the KOSHA, there were a total of 258 victims who suffered from suffocation accidents at work over the past ten years (1999-2008) and 194 of those accidents proved fatal, (indicating a 75.2% fatality rate). 82 deaths occurred between June and August and the numbers show that over 40% (42.3%) of suffocation deaths took place in summer.

Deaths and accidents due to suffocation mostly took place in waterworks or sewage manholes and sewage and wastewater disposal plants before and after rainy days. Both deaths and accidents persisted during the summer season.

The reasons the suffocation deaths and accidents mostly occur in summer are that Δ the increase in temperature and localized torrential downpours provide an environment where microorganisms can easily breed in confined spaces such as manholes, septic tanks, and storage tanks, increasing the risk of hazardous gases such as hydrogen sulfide due to an oxygen deficiency and decomposition and Δ the number of manhole operations, including in waterworks and sewage systems, in preparation against localized torrential downpours is increasing, yet employees are operating without effective safety measures being put in place.

The Ministry of Labor and the KOSHA officially announced the [Warning of Danger of Suffocation Accidents in Summer] along with 'Three Safety Rules for Operations in Confined Spaces' in order to prevent suffocation deaths and accidents in confined spaces in the summer months.

The Ministry of Labor and the KOSHA are also performing intensive inspections of the 'Observation

of the Three Safety Rules for Operations in Confined Spaces', while strengthening safety training and inspections for construction projects ordered by local governments and sewage and wastewater disposal plants.

In addition to these efforts, the KOSHA is strengthening its public relations activities, such as publicizing safety information through KBS-2TV's safety variety show 'Emergency Escape No. 1' centering on the 'Three Safety Rules for Operations in Confined Spaces', providing technical guidelines to businesses that have confined spaces, and leasing equipment used to prevent suffocation in confined spaces free of charge.

- Over Half of all Deaths from Electric Shock Occur in July-August
- 3High Humidity and Low Concentration Levels, Must Observe the 'Three Safety Rules'

Attention is required in July and August, the season of summer heat and increased humidity with localized torrential downpours, as over half of all deaths due to electric shock occur in these two months.

The Ministry of Labor and the KOSHA announced that 28 out of the 52 deaths last year due to electric shock occurred in July and August. According to the KOSHA, electric devices are more likely to suffer electricity faults in high humidity conditions, and body resistance decreases due to excessive sweating. In other words, the potential for electric shock is higher in summer than at any other time of year. The high temperatures also reduce the concentration power of workers.

When compared with foreign countries, the number of deaths due to electric shock in Korea was 5.67 per 1 million workers, 4-21 times higher than that in America (1.44), England (0.68), and Japan (0.27).

The Ministry of Labor and the KOSHA announced Three Safety Rules - Δ Earth Leakage Circuit Breaker Δ Check Power during Electric Work - and asked for attention to prevent electric shocks at the workplace in the summer months. With the announcement of the Three Safety Rules to prevent electric shock at the workplace in the summer months, the KOSHA is visiting companies to provide guidelines on preventing electric shocks and support electric shock accident prevention devices, such as the ELCB, to businesses with less than 50 employees through reviews.

Head of the Safety System Research Team of the KOSHA, Bo-hyeok Ryu said, "The death rate due to electric shock is very high in summer, and the most effective way to prevent this is to observe the Three Safety Rules. Electrical components have to be designed, installed, and managed by qualified people in order to secure electricity safety from the beginning."

- **Statistics**

- 1st Quarter Industrial Accident Rate 0.16%, Similar to Other Years
 - The Ministry of Labor Announced the Industrial Accident Status for the End of March

The industrial accident status for the first quarter of this year showed a decrease in all sections, including the accident rate, the number of victims, the number of deaths, and the rate of deaths per 10,000 people involved in industrial accidents compared with the same period last year.

According to the occupational accident status of the end of March, recently released by the Ministry of Labor, the accident rate fell by 0.01% to 0.16% compared with the same period last year, the number of victims was reduced by 834 people (3.7%) to 21,509, the number of deaths from accidents was lower by 25 people (6.8%), at 340, and the rate of deaths per 10,000 people involved in accidents, including disease, fell by 0.09 (18.4%) to 0.40.

In the areas where intensive management programs for three frequently occurring accidents were implemented to reduce by half accidents involving falling, tripping, and being rolled or caught, which assume over 50% of all accidents, there were 11,192 victims, 203 less than in the previous year.

The largest number of victims, 8,362 in total, was shown in other business categories such as the agricultural industry, forestry, and fisheries. The financial and insurance industry followed. There were 7,679 victims in the manufacturing industry and 4,129 victims in the construction industry.

- **Special Events**

- Search for Safety Measures for the World's Top Shipbuilding Industry
 - KOSHA-KEF, Japan-Korea Seminar for Preventing Accidents in the Shipbuilding Industry

An international seminar to enhance health and safety levels in the Korean shipbuilding industry, already boastful of a globally recognized reputation.

This event was considered to have made an enormous contribution to securing the safety of the shipbuilding industry through the direct comparison between the governments and companies of both countries for the establishment of health and safety in the industry. The KOSHA held the 'Japan-Korea International Seminar on the Prevention of Accidents in the Shipbuilding Industry' with 150 participants in connection with the Korea Employers' Federation (KEF) in the Capri Room of the Busan Paradise Hotel on July 3.

This seminar was held to set up a turning point in the effort to reduce accidents in the shipbuilding industry, at the time recording an accident rate of 1.76%, far higher than that of the computer industry at 0.71%, despite its reputation. On the Japanese side, Senior Advisor Ryoji Takeda of the Central Labor Accident Prevention Association explained the 'Accident Prevention Policy for the

Shipbuilding Industry in Japan'. Health and Safety Manager Kazuo Sakai of the Universal Shipbuilding Corporation explained the health and safety management status and techniques in the shipbuilding industry in Japan. Vice President Wakakura Masatoshi of the Japanese Society of Safety Engineers gave a speech on their efficient accident reduction management plan.

On the Korean side, Team Manager Jae-gwang Park of the Gyeongnam Training Center gave a speech on the characteristics of the shipbuilding industry and their accident reduction plan, Executive Director Tae-beom Lee of Hyundai Heavy Industries gave a speech on their shipbuilding company's health and safety management status and techniques, and Professor Seong-nok Jang of Bugyeong University gave a speech on their corporate management plan for accident reduction. After the presentations from both countries, participants had a meeting to discuss and summarize the presentations, chaired by Professor Yeong-sun Lee of the Seoul National University of Technology.

President of KOSHA said, "This seminar is an opportunity to discuss and engage in active information exchange about the shipbuilding industry's accident policies and accident reduction policies, and we hope it helps the Korean shipbuilding industry enhance its health and safety levels in line with its technology reputation."

- **New Publications**

- Finding Occupational Health and Safety Information Easily
 - The KOSHA Publishes the 'KOSHA Catalogue 2009'

The KOSHA announced the publication of the 'KOSHA Catalogue 2009' that health and safety officials and employees could use to find occupational health and safety information more conveniently. The 'KOSHA Catalogue 2009' is a list of occupational health and safety information published by KOSHA for the four years from 2006 to today. It lists major details about 736 different items.

The catalogue has a total of 124 pages and is divided into three section's publication information, poster information, and multimedia information. Each section has basic contents with related information and product pictures. The publication information section includes a list of a total of 392 items including welding operation safety along with brief descriptions. The poster information section introduces 69 posters on the prevention of falling, being rolled, or caught, and tripping, all using pictures. The multimedia information section describes 275 different items, including videos about preventing suffocation accidents and safety in excavation work.

- All Accidents Since the Establishment of the Korean Government in One Book
 - The National Emergency Management Agency Published '60 Years of Accident Management', the History and Policy of Accident Management

A book containing all accident-related information, including accident management history and policy, since the establishment of the Korean government to today. On July 28th, the National Emergency Management Agency published and distributed 60 Years of Accident Management, outlining changes in accident management organization, accident management policy, and cases of accidents for the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Korean government.

60 Years of Accident Management introduces the organization and system of accident management in Korea, policies, and cases of accidents from the establishment of the government in 1948 to 2008. The section on the changes in accident management organization describes the establishment and revision of regulations as well as the changes in the medium and long term accident management plans in the fields of natural disasters, manmade disasters, and fire disasters by their competent authorities during the period from the foundation of the government to today.

The section on accident management policy compares the accident management policies pushed forward since the establishment of the National Emergency Management Agency with the past. It divides policies into general accident management policies, prevention and manmade accident management policies, countermeasure and fire management policies, and recovery and natural disaster management policies. The section on cases of accidents lists natural disasters such as typhoons, localized torrential downpours, droughts, and earthquakes by year, and the section also describes the accidents that took place in the 1960's and before in one section, and the accidents that occurred afterwards in another by each decade.

It also describes 29 manmade accidents, including the collapse of the Wawoo Apartment building in 1969, the collapse of Seongsu Bridge in 1994, the collapse of Sampoong Department in 1995, and the Hebei Spirit Oil Spill in 2007, as well as 33 fires, including that at Busan Station in 1953, the Daegu subway incendiary fire in 2003, and the South Gate fire in 2008.

This book also includes a supplement comprised of 100 pages of pictures of natural disasters, manmade disasters, and fires that took place from the establishment of the government to today, arranged by field and time, lists of officials of accident management organizations, major accident management policies of each year, and a chronological table of accidents.