

Protecting Worker's Life and Health

KOSHA Newsletter

April 2010

**“Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency,
Decisively Drives Disaster Prevention in Service Industry”**

Feb. 16th, Concluded an Agreement to Fulfill 「Service Industry Plus Safety
Project」 with Korea Restaurant Association

- Feb. 16th, 2010.

“Specific fulfillment is being agreed to prevent disasters of restaurant workers.”

- Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency(KOSHA, President Noh Mingi) concluded an agreement to fulfill 「Service Industry Plus Safety Project」 with Korea Restaurant Association, at 11:30 of 16th (Tue), in the conference room of Korea Restaurant Association.

< Outline of the Agreement between Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency – Korea Restaurant Association >

- . When: Feb. 16th, 2010. (Tue) 11:30 ~ 13:00
- . Where: Conference Room of Korea Restaurant Association (3rd floor)
- . Attendants: Choi Daeyeol, Director of Education and Advertisement of Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency and Nam Sangman, Chairman of Korea Restaurant Association

* 「**Service Industry Plus Safety Project**」: As a project of 2010 driven by the Agency under the purpose of decreasing industrial disasters; for 6 service industries with many disasters, disaster-preventing activities would be performed, such as checking risk factors, encouraging and attaching safety information, and advertising safety and public health.

- 6 service industries with many disasters: restaurant, wholesaler, retailer and repair shops, hygienic and similar service, high building management, public health and social wealth and educational service.

○ As a joint effort of the Agency and Korea restaurant Association to prevent accidents of restaurant workers and improve their health, this agreement is driven as a way of specific practice for the Business Agreement made by both sides last October.

- Therefore, Korea Restaurant Association would put efforts to prevent disasters of the workers by adding education on safety and public health to the course of 'Food Hygiene Education' course, a legal occupational course,

- The Agency would cooperate and support securing lecturers and educational material, and inspire restaurant workers and diners with disaster-prevention by supporting manufacture of the educational manual.

* Food Hygiene Education: As a trusted legal occupational education conducted by Korea Restaurant Association for restaurant founders and owners, who are supposed to get the course for 6 and 3 hours a year, respectively.

○ Meanwhile, restaurants show the most disaster victims among service businesses (22%, 6,614 victims on the basis of November 2009), of which systemic security and public health management is difficult.

- Actually, a majority of restaurants have less than 5 workers who are vulnerable to industrial disasters since they are old or female day-laborers such as waiter, cooker, or delivery man.

○ To prevent such disasters in service business, the Agency established Department of Disaster Prevention in Service Business, and plan to expand 「Service Industry Plus Safety Project」 to decrease the number of victims to 1,000 this year.

*The number of victims in service business in 2009: around 33,300(estimated)

- Choi Daeyeol, Director of Education and Advertisement of the Agency, said that “This agreement is the first one to specifically fulfill the MOU concluded in 2009,” and that “The Agency and the Association are going to contribute to diminishing disasters in service business by decisively cooperating with each other.” (The End)

**‘Small Scale Business with Less than 10 Workers, take
「Working Environment Investigation and Workers’ Health
Examinations」 for Free.’**

Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency supports the cost for 「Working Environment Investigation and Workers’ Specific Health Examination」

- Feb. 4th, 2010

- Any businesses with less than 10 workers exposed to chemicals, dust, and noise are supported for the cost of Working Environment Investigation and Workers’ Specific Health Examination.
- Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency(President Noh Mingi) has decided to support the cost of 「Working Environment Investigation and Workers’ Specific Health Examination」 to prevent healthy disorders caused by chemicals, pneumoconiosis, or hearing impairment from small-scaled businesses, to improve their working environment and to keep the workers healthy.
- Beneficiaries are the businesses insured by occupational health and safety with less than 10 workers who are exposed to harmful material, dust or noise; they can do working environment investigation and the workers’ specific health examination for free.
- The process is following; employers of less than 10 workers apply for it on-line, the Agency checks whether they are beneficiary of Working Environment Investigation and the Workers’ Specific Health Examination and informs of abnormalities if any, and the pertinent business gets their working environment investigated and the workers’ health examined at an institute for specific health examination.

- When an institute in charge of working environment investigation and specific health examination reports the results to Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency and apply for the charge, the Agency checks the results and pay them.

○ ‘Expenditure Support for Working Environment Investigation and the Workers’ Specific Health Examination’ is to lessen economic burden of small-scaled businesses and to protect the workers’ health who are vulnerable to industrial disasters.

※ 4,495 companies have been benefited since the expenditure support for working environment investigation was conducted in 2009, while 17,231 workers of 5,802 companies were benefited for specific health examination cost, at the second half of the first supporting year (2009).

In 2010 about 12,000 companies are expected to be supported for working environment, and about 100,000 workers are for specific health examination.

○ Employers of less than 10 workers should apply for the cost of working environment investigation at the website of Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (www.kosha.or.kr) until Feb. 28th, and expenditure support for specific health examination can be checked at the same website; call for nearby branch of the Agency or counselors for further information.

○ A source of the Agency emphasized that “Expenditure support for companies of less than 10 workers for their working environment investigation and the workers’ specific health examination is to make pleasant working environment and to protect the workers’ health; assertive interest and application of owners are required considering that healthy workers and pleasant environment raise competitiveness of companies.”

“Korean Style Disaster-Prevention Model was Introduced to Vietnam”

Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency invited 12 Vietnamese Officials in charge of Safety and Public Health to get Trained

- Feb. 26th, 2010

- Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency(president Noh Mingi) got 12 officials from Vietnam MOLISA and NILP trained at educational hall of the Agency located in Incheon for a week from Feb. 22nd to Feb. 26th.
 - Following The Agreement of Technical Cooperation with both institute of Vietnam MOLISA and NILP at Vietnam-Korea Event held in Hanoi, Vietnam, last October,
- This training was prepared to contribute to improving the safety and public health system of Vietnam through enhancing the capabilities of Vietnamese officials in charge of safety and public health.
- The training covers the overall area of industrial safety and public health of Korea by focusing on the trainees’ discussion about the topic so that they can learn efficiently the skill to prevent industrial disasters in a short period of time.

- Besides, education on public health and safety certification was also conducted.
- According to the agreement of technical tie-up with Vietnam, the Agency will prepare ‘Master Plan to Support and Raise Industrial Safety and Public Health of Vietnam’ for systemic technical support and follow-up on an annual base.
- A source of the Agency said that “This invited training for Vietnamese officials in charge of safety and public health is expected to be useful for them to conduct their performances,’ and that “The Agency will raise the international reputation of Korea on industrial safety and public health by enhancing technical support to prevent industrial disaster for developing countries in Asia.”