

KOSHA NEWS

Protecting Worker's Life and Health

December 2017. vol. 90



KOSHA

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Emergency Response of "Occupational Accident Trauma Management" to Tower Crane Collapse

Mitigation of Psychological Shock from Fatal Accident and Preventive Measure for Secondary occupational accident



The Ministry of Employment and Labor (MOEL) and KOHSA conducts investigation into causes for fatal occupational accident by organizing a joint investigation task force (17 staff members) concerning the tower crane collapse accident leaving 3 fatalities and 2 injured, which occurred at Uijeongbu construction site on October 10 (Tuesday).

- At the same time, KOSHA announced that it is currently taking emergency responsive measures in order to help the workers who either experienced or witnessed the devastating occupational accident overcoming anxiety disorders caused by trauma starting on October 11 (Wednesday) in parallel with preventive measures against significant occupational accidents of tower crane which is in the process of development by the MOEL along with relevant authorities.
- The subjects for management^① are those who were found necessary for trauma management during the course of investigation into causes of fatal occupational accidents, including the workers engaging in disassembly work of tower crane, workers who witnessed the accident and personnel in charge of workplace safety and health; and the Trauma Management Program^② on occupational accidents is currently implemented through Gyeonggi Bukbu Regional Workers' Health Center^③.
 - ① A total of 19 people from the workers at the site: 2 survivors, 4 witnesses, 1 worker engaging in disassembly work of tower crane and other personnel of workplace safety and health management;
 - ② Structure of Program: Current state investigation (identification of subjects & decision on strategy of psychological consultation) → Preliminary consultation (examination of shock intensity from accident & psychological consultation) → Secondary consultation (reexamination, confirmation of improvement: referral to professional treatment & guidance on application for occupational accidents when necessary) → Follow-up management (telephone or visit) → Additional consultation if deemed necessary



Emergency Response of "Occupational Accident Trauma Management" to Tower Crane Collapse

- ③ It is an organization that provides various occupational health services through full-time experts, including medical specialists, nurses, occupational environment experts, counseling psychologists and physical therapists. Currently, a total of 21 organizations are currently in operation nationwide where 165,000 people (135,000 workers from a workplace with 50 workers or less) were benefited from the center as of 2016.
- Most of all, in order not to miss out the golden time for trauma management depending on psychological response changes by periods*, medical specialists and psychological consultation experts were deployed to ensure initial stabilization of the subjects within less than 7 days from the accident occurred, and the program will continue its operation until December, 2017.
- * Emergency response period (within less than 7 days from occupational accident occurred: Training & guidance) → Initial response period (8 days to 1 month from occupational accident occurred: Evaluation & consultation) → Intermediate response period (1 to 3 months from occupational accident occurred: Observation, verification & consultation) → Post response period (3 months after occupational accident occurred: Follow-up observation)

Moreover, KOSHA currently conducts a pilot operation of "Trauma Management on occupational accidents" for workplaces at the region of Daegu, Gyeongbuk and Busan from September 12, and it plans to expand the operation throughout the nation in November after verifying for any concerning issues.

- A staff member of KOSHA insisted the importance of support for workers to overcome shocks and anxiety disorders experiencing from devastating occupational accidents suffered by fellow workers and eventually return to normal life.
- He said, "KOSHA plans to manage mental health issues for workers including prevention of trauma from occupational accidents in addition to investigation into causes of fatal occupational accidents."



Emergency Response of "Occupational Accident Trauma Management" to Tower Crane Collapse

Reference 1 : Definition of Occupational Accident Trauma & Management System

What is occupational accident trauma (PTSD)?

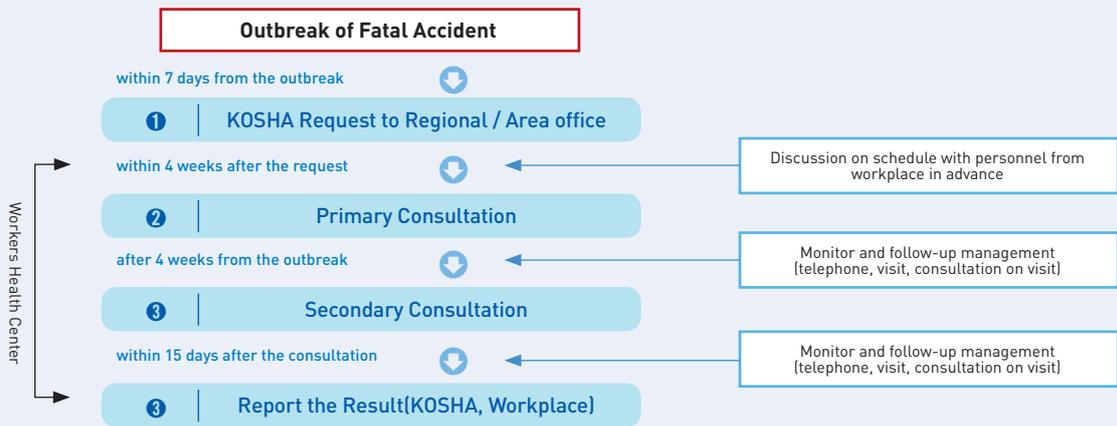
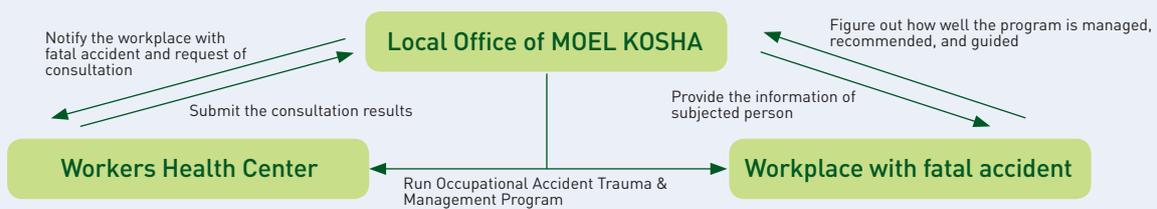
► **Definition**

- Post-traumatic stress disorder (limited to the symptoms arising after occupational accident occurs), anxiety disorder that manifests after witnessing severe or extremely dangerous injuries or having first-hand experience of incident (accident)

► **Symptoms & Characteristics**

- Patients tend to repeatedly recall trauma from occupational accidents or disturbing scenes or to avoid or feel indifferent to the trauma-related situations.
- Patients easily get startled due to consistent nerve arousal and show deteriorated focus, sleep disorder and sensitive reactions; and when becoming more serious, it could lead to panic disorder, seizure and extreme anxiety.
- Onset of PTST mostly becomes apparent immediately after an accident occurs; however, there are cases where it outbreaks a few years or decades later, and PTSD has characteristics that it outbreaks constantly, repeatedly and complexly.

Occupational Accident Trauma Management System





Find Information on Occupational Safety and Life Safety at KOSHA HUB!

KOSHA Unveils 'KOSHA HUB' Portal to Offer Easy Access to Safety Information for Everyone

Easy-to-Learn Contents on Safety with TV Campaign Footage, Sound Source & Card News



KOSHA opened 'KOSHA HUB,' a portal site offering all information on safety and health and life safety.

- KOSHA HUB gathers and provides all contents concerning occupational safety and life safety (image, sound source, TV campaign, card news and Webtoons) which were previously offered through various platforms, such as official website of KOSHA, SNS and portal sites, in order to ensure easy access by the general public.
- Moreover, accessibility for customers has been elevated not only since anyone can access the service without membership registration but also as the service is developed as responsive web where the size of the screen automatically gets optimized depending on the access environment.

* Address of KOSHA HUB: <http://koshahub.or.kr>

The President of KOSHA, Lee Young-Soon said, "Making safety information available for everyone without discrimination is the first step to make the society safe."

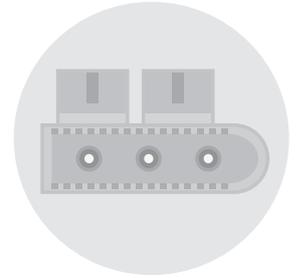
- "I sincerely hope that the contents provided through KOSHA HUB would contribute to building healthy safety culture throughout our society," Lee added.



Mandatory Safety Inspection Imposed on Industrial Robots & Conveyers

Safety Inspection System on Industrial Robot and
Conveyer Enforced from October 28, 2017

Business Owners to Take Initial Safety Inspection
upon Adopting Facility Followed by Biennial Regular
Inspection



KOSHA conducts safety inspections starting on October 29, 2017 pursuant to implementation of safety inspection system* on industrial robots and conveyers.

* It is to mandate business owners to take safety inspections on regular basis in order to protect workers from industrial accidents prone to occur during operations of industrial robots and conveyers.

As increasing demands for industrial robots and conveyers due to automation and unmanned technologies are anticipated to elevate the frequency of occupational accidents occurring from the facilities, industrial robots and conveyers are now newly designated to the subjects for safety inspections.

- According to the statistics on occupational accidents, 221 workers suffered from industrial robot-related accidents while 1,008 experienced conveyer-related accidents for the past 5 years.

With implementation of this regulation, business owners using industrial robots and conveyers are now required to take initial and regular safety inspections at the inspection agencies designated by the Minister of Employment and Labor.

- Especially, those business owners who have been using industrial robots and conveyers since prior to October 29, 2017 are obliged to take initial safety inspection by December 31, 2018.
- All subject items verified for their safety through safety inspections will be issued with a report on safety inspection and certificate of inspection.
- Key items for inspection include proper operations of safety device of industrial robot (perimeter fence, barrier, interlock device), conveyer structures (transfer equipment, drive system, etc.) and safety device of conveyer.



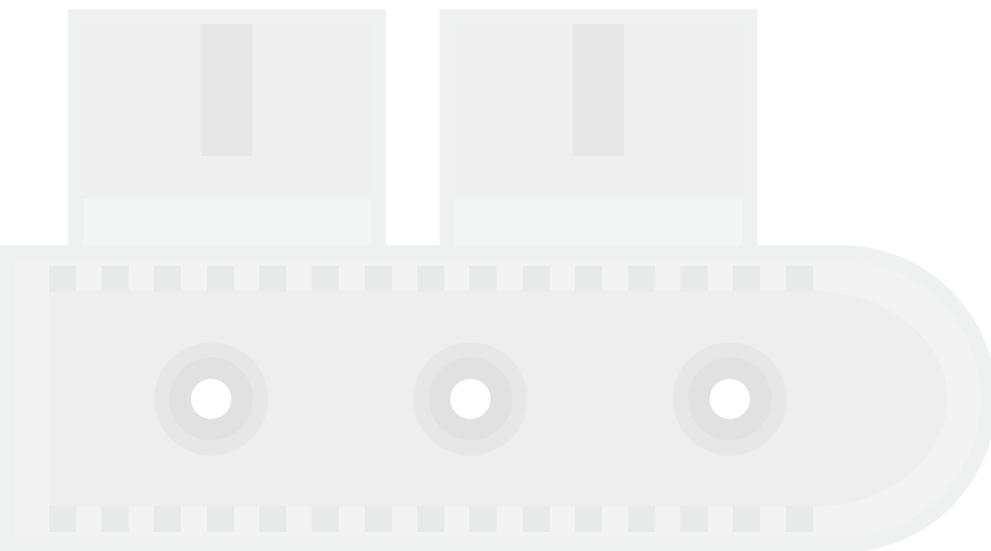
Mandatory Safety Inspection Imposed on Industrial Robots & Conveyers

Application for inspection may be submitted through branch offices of 4 authorized safety inspection agencies: KOSHA, Korea Elevator Safety Agency, Korea Industrial Safety Association and Korea Safety Technology Association.

* More information: Via Official website of KOHSA (<http://miis.kosha.or.kr>) and Telephone (☎ 1544-3089)

A staff member of KOSHA pointed out, "The intent of safety inspection system is to protect workers from occupational accidents by procuring safety of dangerous machines and devices through constant inspection and management."

- He added, "The agency is determined to make further efforts to prevent occupational accidents through concurrent execution of technical supports to secure safety at workplaces in addition to implementation of upcoming safety inspection system on industrial robots and conveyers."





Creation of Good Jobs through Occupational Accident Prevention Program

KOSHA Hosts Kick-off Ceremony for the Committee on Creation of Good Jobs to Promote a Policy to Create Jobs at Public Institutions and Eradicate Non-Regular Workers



KOSHA hosted a kick-off meeting for the Committee on Creation of Good Jobs to lead the new administration's policy to create jobs on October 7.

- Launched in last August through a joint declaration by management and labor, the Committee on Creation of Good Jobs is the control tower of the policy to create jobs at the agency including conversion of non-regular workers.

At this kick-off meeting, 3 major strategic assignments were established based on the mission of "Protection of public safety and life through creation of good jobs": △ performance management on creation of good jobs, △ improvement of employment quality and △ creation of jobs.

- Through the first strategic assignment of performance management on creation of good jobs, it is to establish executive assignments to create good jobs and pursue conversion into employment-friendly administrative system;
- With the second strategic assignment of improvement of employment quality, it is to seek to foster discrimination-free workplaces, including development of new businesses pursuant to new hazardous risk factors, eradication of non-regular workers and improvement of working conditions;
- The third assignment of job creation aims to strengthen the infrastructure to prevent industrial accidents and to maximize job creations by promoting substantiation and expansion of consignment businesses.

The President of KOSHA, Lee Young-Soon announced, "KOSHA is dedicated to creating high-quality jobs through expansion of supports for small and medium-sized businesses, promotion of safety and health fields in private sector and development of new businesses pursuant to new hazardous risk factors."



Health Administrators Put Their Heads Together for Protecting Workers' Health

KOSHA held the second national contest this year in Changwon, Gyeongnam Province



A venue for mutual cooperation was provided to establish plans on preventing industrial accidents of Thailand workers and strengthen mutual cooperation.

It provided an opportunity for the health administrators* of workplaces to gather together in one place and examine occupational health issues and discuss about ways to manage industrial health effectively.

- * As doctors, nurses and industrial hygiene experts, they prevent occupational diseases through various activities, including making walk-around inspections of workplaces, supervising and managing recuperation of people with diseases, making engineering improvement of operation method, examining and analyzing the cause of industrial accident occurrence, and offering technical assistance, advice and guidance to prevent reoccurrence. (Article 16 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act)
- The 2017 National Health Administrator Contest, sponsored by the Ministry of Employment and Labor and jointly hosted by KOSHA and five other occupational health-related institutions**, was held on November 17 (Friday) at Changwon Exhibition Convention Center in Gyeongnam.
- ** Korean Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Korean Industrial Health Association, Korea Occupational Hygiene Association, Council of Group Occupational Health Service, KISANHYUP

This year marks the second anniversary of the national contest, which is held in the order of awarding outstanding health administrators, presenting best practices of health management, and holding sessions on different themes.

- At the award ceremony, the Minister of Employment and Labor Award (1 person) and the President of Korea Occupational Safety & Health Agency Award (4 persons) will be given with presentations about the best practices of the winners.



Health Administrators Put Their Heads Together for Protecting Workers' Health

At the sessions on different themes, various themes related to occupational health will be provided, including health protection plans for emotional labor in workplace, systems to prevent acute poisoning due to chemicals, and integrated management directions of harmful factors by type of occupation.

- In addition, the posters of best practices in health management were also announced to share various information and best practices about protecting workers' health.

The president of KOSHA said, "In order to resolve newly-rising occupational health issues, such as trauma caused by emotional labor and industrial accident, the expertise and role of health administrators have never been more important."

- He added, "I hope that the contest will provide an opportunity to raise awareness about protecting workers' health and improve health management level at workplaces."





Inviting underprivileged neighbors to music concert



KOSHA invited 72 underprivileged neighbors to a music concert of Martinu Czech Philharmonic Orchestra in Korea, at the Ulsan Culture Are Center on the 11th of November.

KOSHA, on the occasion of its 30th anniversary, carried out this project as part of Measenat activity which enterprises conduct through the promotion of arts and culture, to contribute activating economy of Ulsan.

At the early stage of planning the Martinu concert, KOSHA bought 100 tickets in advance to stabilize the performance planning.

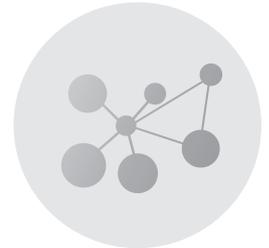
On the day of the performance, 22 KOSHA staff accompanied with the 72 people from 6 facilities for the underprivileged in Ulsan to fulfill corporate social responsibility, using the ticket purchased in advance.

A person concerned from one of the 6 facilities expressed thanks to KOSHA mentioning "it was a precious opportunity for children from the facility to experience arts and culture."



Occupational Safety and Health Policy in Nano Fields

Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute of KOSHA publishes guidelines on the health protection of workers handling manufactured nanomaterials



Ranked 3rd globally for the number of patents in nano fields, and the commercialization performance for the recent five years was 3,512 cases, increased by 40.1% on annual average

- Press release on the implementation plan of developing nanotechnology in 2017, March 14, 2017, Ministry of Science and ICT

The Ministry of Employment and Labor(MOEL) and the Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute(OSHRI) of KOSHA publish guidelines on the health protection of workers handling manufactured nanomaterials*

* All chemicals made of nano sizes by using nanotechnology

The growth in nanotechnology increased the number of workers handling manufactured nanomaterials. There is concern about the occurrence of health hazards increasing, but the correlation between manufactured nanomaterials and health has not been clearly clarified until now.

- MOEL is expanding the policy to protect workers even though no risks have been identified based on precautionary principle**. These guidelines are also a part of such policy.

** Precautionary principle: In the case where a danger to public health and environment is suspected, but there is a lack of scientific evidence, it is a risk management act that regulate and respond in advance. According to this principle, the hazards of nanomaterials are managed in the European Union and the United States.

These guidelines consist of 7 chapters in total, including hazards of nanomaterials and exposure assessment. Also, the information needed to make business owners and workers understand and establish exposure reduction strategies are provided.



Occupational Safety and Health Policy in Nano Fields

※ Distributed through KOSHA's regional offices and area offices and worksites handling nanomaterials by the end of this year and will be uploaded to the Publication section on KOSHA's website (<http://www.kosha.or.kr>).

A staff member of KOSHA said, “Due to the development of technology, we face multitude of risks that we have not experienced before.”

- He said, “KOSHA will analyze and predict these risks and make continued efforts to create safe industrial settings for workers.”





Published by
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