

## 2008 Newsletter

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- **Topics**

- 2008 World Congress on Safety and Health at Work, D-100

**‘safety and Health Summit’ and ‘seoul Declaration’ will be held and adopted during the World Congress, from 29 June, where it will be a place of opportunities to face the newest intelligence and knowledge on global safety and health.**

**The XVIII World Congress on Safety and Health at Work draws near, 100 days from now, where it will be held from 29 June to 2 July at COEX in Seoul.**

**World Congress on Safety and Health at Work is jointly organized by KOSHA, International Labour Office (ILO) and International Social Security Association (ISSA). The congress will be held under the motto ‘Safety and health at work: A societal responsibility’ with four main topics; Δ Strategies and Programmes of Safety and Health for the Future Δ Impact of Changing Working Conditions on Workers’ Protection Δ New Challenges and Opportunities in Occupational Safety and Health, and Δ Safety and Health Management Systems.**

**The main event of the congress, ‘safety and Health Summit’ is scheduled to take place on the first day of the Congress, 29 June, where participants including representatives of labour, management and government from around the world as well as CEOs and representatives of safety and health related organizations will attend. At the summit, ‘seoul Declaration’ will be announced as a way to promote global occupational safety and health.**

**At Technical Sessions, domestic and overseas experts in the field of occupational safety and health will participate and the newest technology and strategies to prevent occupational accidents will be introduced, including a presentation titled ‘How the Exchange of Working Condition can Protect Workers.’ At the Regional Meetings, specialists from 5 regions; America, Europe, Asia, Arab and Africa will share current status and pending issues on each region’s occupational safety and health.**

**In addition, symposia is planned to take place for 3 days from 30 June, where 48 various topics will be addressed. Starting with a theme presentation by World Health Organization (WHO), presentations on recently arising issue, asbestos will be delivered by ILO, ISSA and International**

Trade Union Confederation. Dangers of nano-particle in workplaces, good practices of S.T. Dupont Paris, and the most recent safety and health issues in international safety and health related organizations will be discussed.

Along with this, at 'speakers' Corners,' speakers will be able to choose their own topics and deliver the presentations related to occupational safety and health. At 'Poster Session,' posters on research papers, good practices from the companies and development of new products related to safety and health will be exhibited. Events that are open to general participants include International Safety and Health Exhibition and International Film and Multimedia Festival.

Prior to the opening ceremony on 29 June, the 46th Annual Meeting of ILO-CIS National and Collaborating Centres will be held from 9 am to 5 pm, which is a significant international meeting for cooperation of informational network. The meeting is open to all individuals interested in the effective use of information related to safety and health. After the meeting, there will be a chance to ask questions regarding each country's activities and strategies to disseminate health and safety information.

CIS Special Session for Practical OSH Information Use is going to be held at COEX (room 403) a day after the ILO-CIS annual meeting, where searching skills and intelligence technologies will be demonstrated by experts of international intelligence to the relative workers. From these demonstrations, skill to use resources on safety and health from around the world, especially in major advanced countries will be shown. The demonstrations focus on searching skills for books and papers of International Occupational Safety and Health Information Center (CISDOC) and various publications such as Encyclopedia of Occupational Health and Safety of ILO.

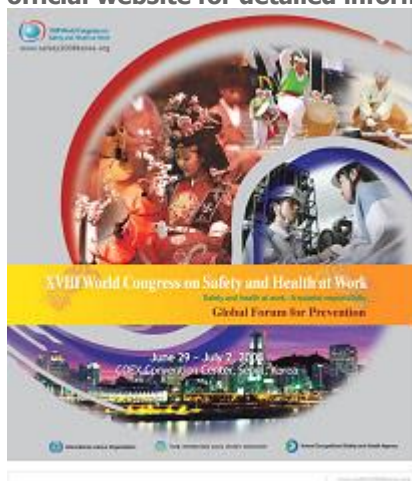
After being formally appointed to host the World Congress by ILO and ISSA in September 2005, KOSHA has set up and operated secretariat for the world congress since January 2006. Recently the 6th IOC practical meeting to prepare it, KOSHA has spurred the work starting to edit 'Preliminary program book.' The 'preliminary program book' consists of keynote speakers, presenters and presentation titles, where it will be produced and disseminated in 5 official languages; English, French, German, Spanish and Korean.

World Congress on Safety and Health at Work is held at every 3 years, and its jointly organized by ILO, ISSA and the host organization. The upcoming Congress is the biggest international event in the field of occupational safety and health, where Korea is the second Asian country to host it after India in 1993. About 2,500 domestic and overseas visitors are expected to participate. As of February 28 this year (deadline for early registration date), 837 people have registered in total, where 591 were domestic participants and 246 were overseas participants.

48 Symposium topics related to safety and health was initially intended to include 300 presenters but 369 people have applied for Symposia by the end of February. KOSHA's initial target for the International Film and Multimedia Festival (IFMF) was 150 productions. However, due to its global interests and attraction, 159 pieces were submitted to be displayed at the IFMF.

Many high-level representatives are expected to participate in the upcoming Congress, including secretary-general of ILO Juan Somavia, chairman of ISSA Corazon de la Paz, Minister of Manpower in Denmark Claus Hjort Frederison, Ministers of Labor in 10 countries and CEOs of multinational companies.

Pre-registration, application for Speakers' Corner and Poster Session and final registration are being done online through the official website ([www.safety2008korea.org](http://www.safety2008korea.org)). Please refer to the official website for detailed information.



- Deaths at Hankook Tire Linked to Work

KOSHA said 20 Feb Wednesday that a series of deaths at Hankook Tire's domestic plants are "possibly" linked to working conditions at the factories.

Ending months of study to determine whether the deaths had any relationship with the working environment, the KOSHA said heavy workloads may have affected 13 workers at a Hankook Tire plant in Daejeon who died between May 2006 and October 2007.

"The high room temperature may have had an influence on heart disease while the heavy workload and night shifts may have affected their coronary arteries," it said.

The agency admitted that the death toll among the workers was unusually high and the heavy

workload as well as extended working hours could have caused additional stress.

Still, studies to figure out the exact cause of death should be done individually, the agency said.

"Cancer and other diseases are usually caused by multiple factors and it is inappropriate to pick out just one," the agency spokesman said, implicating a tough road ahead for the families to get the deaths acknowledged as industrial accidents.

The agency said a connection between the solvent used in the manufacturing process and the deaths was highly unlikely.

The study was conducted on 7,140 former and incumbent workers as well as affiliate company workers after the news broke last November.

Since then, the agency defined the deaths as a "collective outbreak," while an interim report last month announced no relationship between the workplace environment and the deaths.

Between May 2006 and September 2007, 15 workers, mostly in their forties, died of cancer or cardiovascular diseases while they were sleeping or resting at home or in the company dormitory in Daejeon. Only 13 were subject to this investigation.

Hankook Tire said it deeply feels sorry for the bereaved families and that it is willing to do whatever it can to help them.

The company, previously caught for violating Occupational Safety and Health Laws 1,394 times and trying to cover up 183 industrial accident reports, said they had corrected the problems. "We are ready to move on to make the company a leading one in green environment, safety and staff welfare in the future," the company spokesman said.

(21 Feb, Korea Herald)

- The Ministry of Labor has Ratified 2 ILO Conventions about Occupational Safety and Health
  - ‘Occupational Safety and Health Convention (No. 155)’ has been ratified. The kernel of the agreement is having a discussion between employers and employees when it establishes or puts in practice a national policy about occupational safety and health as well as working conditions to prevent industrial accidents.
  - Besides, ‘Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention (No. 187)’ was also ratified. The key of the agreement is to promote the policy of occupational safety and health and to establish occupational disease-preventing system in a national scale after discussing it with

representatives of organizations for employers and employees.

The Ministry of Labor announced that it has finished ratification process by depositing those 2 ILO Conventions to the ILO office in Geneva, Switzerland.

Those two Conventions with ratification put in effect after a year since their disposition. By doing that, the number of ILO conventions ratified in Korea has increased to 24 among 75 ratification-required ones of ILO (total conventions are 188,) and 4 agreements got ratification among 13 ratification-required ones in occupational safety and health field.

Occupational Safety and Health Convention (No. 155) was accepted in 1983 and 50 countries have ratified that as of January 2008. The purpose of this convention is to form and understand a consistent national policy about occupational safety and health after discussion it between employers and employees, and to secure workers' safety by minimizing potential danger factors in working conditions through safety measures on and check of machines and equipment of the field.

'Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention (No. 187)' was accepted in 2006 as the second country to ratify following Japan. It stresses to promote a consistent policy of occupational safety and health by establishing and putting in effect occupational accident-preventing programs and by establishing a national scale accident-preventing programs after discussing it between employers and employees. Besides, the convention is to promote a culture to prevent occupational accidents and to form healthy working conditions.

'The World Congress of Safety and Health at Work' is going to be held in 29 June of this year in Korea, in the biggest scale in the world in this part. This time ratification is meaningful because of that. Especially, the Convention No. 187 comes into effect only after getting ratification by more than 2 countries. It can be said that Korea leads the global standard of occupational safety and health by ratifying it for the second time following Japan, satisfying that condition.

The Ministry of Labor announced that it will continue ratifying other agreements after studying feasibility, after working for ratification of a Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Convention (No. 174) this year.



- **OSH Administrative Activities**

- 2008 is the Year of Prioritizing the Management for Vulnerable points in Safety and Health

**Occupational safety and health for this year is focused on discovering major vulnerable points in each field of safety and health and raising government and relative organizations' reactions and responses.**

**KOSHA has selected the following as their main tasks: protecting vulnerable workers, preventing fatal accident, preventing occupational diseases and improving workers' health, and strengthening self-imposed prevention of accidents in cooperation of employers and employees.**

**First of all, Ministry of Labor has established 4 strategies to specifically manage major weaknesses in occupational accidents in industries with repetitive and frequent occupational accidents or many foreign workers. Top three occupational accident types (falling, overturn and caught-in) would be prioritized target for the management, safety disparity in small business would be resolved, protection mechanisms for vulnerable workers who are more prone to occupational accidents will be prepared according to their characters, and inspections would become practical throughout the regional offices.**

**The Ministry of Labor has also established 5 mechanisms to strengthen prevention activities against fatal and major occupational accidents. They are to prepare specialized prevention schemes specifically designed for each business category, to strengthen measures to prevent major occupational accidents, to secure fundamental safety in dangerous machines, devices or protecting equipments, to strengthen the investigation and responses to major occupational accident, and inspection on businesses by local labor offices.**

**Considering increasing proportion of occupational health, Ministry of Labour has decided to particularly focus on strengthening preventive management. They will use the traditional prevention methods of occupational diseases, systematize chemical management, make health checkup more frequent, activate health-promoting project for workers, and take practical investigations to support all of the abovementioned methods.**



- Amendment of the Legal System for Musculoskeletal Disorder is anticipated after 2 years

#### **Ministry of Labor will Adjust Investigation on WMSDs Risk Factors Reasonably**

**Revision of the law about musculoskeletal disorders will only be done after 2010.**

**According to Renovation Plan of Regulation announced by the Ministry of Labor recently, a system-revising work is planned to start and complete in 2009 and 2010 respectively. Outline of the work is reasonable adjustment of the duties for the business owners to investigate harmful factors influencing musculoskeletal disorders. Investigation of harmful factors of muscle and skeleton estimates dangers quantitatively and qualitatively to prevent such diseases.**

**Under the present law, business owners must investigate harmful factors every 3 years on regular basis. The investigation must be done in case where any muscular or skeletal patient or new equipment is established to load any burden to workers' muscle or skeleton.**

**Employers have asserted to remove the system requiring regular investigation on harmful factors because they almost always work in same working conditions and the system shoulders them.**

**Although the Ministry of Labor is planning to establish a 'reasonable adjustment' on regular and frequent investigation, its process is hardly expected as easy. It is because of the difference formed between employers and employees in November 2003, while determining 11 diseases related with musculoskeletal disorder.**

**A method to adjust the inspection range was proposed without an agreement between employers and employees, where it immediately faced its opposition.**

**This year, Ministry of Labor plans to study musculoskeletal disorder law system in advanced countries, as well as its operational status. Musculoskeletal disorder is a general term for a disease accompanied by pains in muscles or nerves. It frequently occurs in workers who perform repetitive, continual, or unnatural poses when working.**

- Removing Asbestos at Subway Stations 'Starts in March

**Removing asbestos in some of the Seoul subway stations has begun.**

**Seoul Metro announced remodeling work of Bangbae station at subway line 2 will start in March, and asbestos-dismantling and air-conditioning work would be done at the same time.**

**According to recent reports, station platforms in Bangbae station has been exposed to asbestos dust, and it immediately made Ministry of Labor check whether the thickness of asbestos accumulated at the station was higher than the standard level. At the same time, they announced that they will order 8 stations including Bangbae station to start removing asbestos. However, Seoul Metro has clarified that asbestos-removing work is not directly related with the news report. They claimed they were already planning to begin the maintenance work for the subway stations since most of them, including lines 1~4, were built more than 20~30 years ago. In addition, Seoul Metro appointed 17 stations including Bangbae as a targets for special management, and will estimate the air contents everyday. According to Seoul Metro, asbestos was not found in any of the station.**

**A staff in Seoul Metro stated "In case of remodeling or repairing for stations tested positive for asbestos, we will contract a separate company specialized in removing asbestos rather than just a remodeling company, to give every efforts to not spread asbestos dust." However, it would take a considerable time to remove all potential asbestos in subway stations. According to Seoul Metro, air-conditioning work of a station took about a year, where they could only work on 3 stations per year due to limited budget.**



- Operating Self-Diagnosis System for Chemicals



A short-cut program was developed for domestic companies to overcome EU legislation on chemicals, which are effective from June this year.

The Ministry of Environment produced 'REACH Navi system' and disseminated on-line, to allow easy approaches to EU legislation on chemicals. 'REACH Navi system' supports companies to self-check whether the chemicals they are using is included in EU limitations of registration, evaluation and authorization.

According to the Ministry of Environment, this system reflects REACH (Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemical Substances) instruction on European Chemicals Agency up to October last year, and companies can check the registration status of each chemicals. (Web address for REACH Navi System: <http://www.reachnavi.eu>)



- A System for Appointing Good Laboratory Practice was introduced

**A System for Appointing Good Laboratory Practice is going to be practiced in the field of occupational safety and health. The Ministry of Labor announced on 3 March that it has established and put in effect "Laboratory Standard for Hazard and Risk Test of Industrial Chemicals."**

**"Good Laboratory Practice" is a laboratory institution appointed by the Minister of Labor to estimate hazard and risk of chemicals on workers' health, and secure credibility of its result.**

**"A System for Appointing Good Laboratory Practice" has been introduced to appoint and operate an exemplar laboratory institution to estimate hazard and risk of materials such as n-hexane, trichloroethylene, dimethylformamide. In addition, it aims to prevent occupational diseases caused by handling hazardous chemicals.**

**Therefore, the above system is anticipated to raise international credibility to produce data on harmful or dangerous material in industrial field.**

**The Ministry of Labor has a plan to strongly support appointing and bringing up Good Laboratory Practice, and also to prevent occupational diseases caused by handling hazardous chemicals.**

- **Statistics**

- Economic Damage due to Industrial Accidents reaches 16 Trillion Won for the First Time

**The rate of occupational accident for last year resulted in 0.72%. The rate is 0.05% less than the 2006 result, which was 0.77%.**

**Although the number of deaths from occupational accidents have decreased, number of patients from occupational accidents has increased sharply. In particular, economic damage due to occupational accidents reached 16 trillion Won for the first time.**

**Ministry of Labor recently announced the Status of Industrial Accident for 2007. When compared with 2006 report, the number of people who suffered from occupational accident increased by 237, resulting in 90,147. Among those involved in occupational accident, 2406 were dead, decreased by 47 compared to 2006. Workers who suffered from occupational accident were 78,675, while those who developed occupational diseases were 11,472.**

**According to the size of companies, those with less than 300 employees resulted in 91.5% (82,505) of total occupational accident victims. Among them, companies of less than 50 employees resulted in 76.3% (68,774) of total incidents. This shows small and medium sized enterprises are more vulnerable to occupational accidents.**

**According to business types, manufacturing field had 34,117 victims while construction had 19,050. Other fields also had decreased number of accidents.**

**According to accident types, common accidents such as caught-in, overturn, falling down, collision, drop and flying took 79.7%.**

**According to diseases, the number of patients due to pneumoconiosis and hearing impairment have sharply decreased. Cerebrovascular diseases and muscular and skeletal structure disorder has increased rapidly where the number of patients reached 11,472. The figure increased by 1,237 compared to last year's number.**

**According to the index of death-related accident, 1.92 per every 10 thousands were dead, while the index of accident-related death was 1.10. Economic damage due to occupational accident which have reached 16 trillion Won for the first time, totaled in 16trillion 211billion 380 million Won.**

- **Update in KOSHA**

- KOSHA and GS Construction Jointly Develop Key Content to Prevent Accidents in Construction Fields

**KOSHA has prioritized the plan to decrease and prevent occupational diseases in the next 5 years.**

**KOSHA announced the main projects of this year, along with mid-term plans to protect workers health and prevent occupational diseases.**

**KOSHA will improve current systems, develop programs, and strengthen support system in 3 fields of 'strengthening management of harmful environment,' 'preventing occupational diseases,' and**

‘preventing accident-related diseases.’ As 2008 is the first year of 5-year plan, the abovementioned projects will be prioritized in occupational health division.

With a detailed process of ‘strengthening management of harmful environment,’ KOSHA will support national budget to estimate working environment for companies of less than 50 employees, examine the reality of distribution and use of frequently disease-making material, develop its countermeasures, establish and manage a system to supervise working conditions, carry out a certification system, remove dust, and improve asbestos-related systems.

In ‘preventing occupational diseases’ area, KOSHA will improve workers health through developing and distributing various programs such as prevention of obesity, smoking and stress according to the scale of business.

To prevent occupational accident-related diseases, KOSHA designed a plan to focus its capacity on improving systems to decrease lumbago and deaths due to suffocation, educate and support skills to prevent suffocation in confined space, and to strengthen management of workers who work with asbestos and 12 frequent occupational diseases causing chemicals.

- Presentation of Good Practices for Safety Activities in Construction Field<sup>14</sup> KOSHA, Pusan join hands for residents’ safety

A research revealed that the scale of occupational accidents are 30 times of known figure. As the status of safety is critical, the report asserts that safety policy must be fundamentally renovated. Occupational Safety and Health Research Institution of KOSHA held a policy forum on 12 February, with a theme of ‘The Reality of Domestic Accidents and How to Improve the Safety-Management System.’

Secretary office of Social Policy of the Blue House, the Ministry of Construction and Transportation, Seoul National Industrial University and other academic personnels participated, as well as private safety-related institutions in addition to approximately 120 workers from construction field.

The first result of ‘strategic Development on National Safety Management’ was announced by the Blue House in July last year, and it drew attention from all participants because the total number of accidents in the nation was announced for the first time.

According to Mr. Lee Jin-Seok, a team member of professors in Seoul National University Medical School, the total cases of domestic accidents in 2006 reached 13 million, and total reported cases of occupational accident resulted 2.8 million, which is 32 times the statistical data produced by the Ministry of Labor.

President Park Doo-Yong of KOSHA, as a joint researcher of the study, said that "Although various measures were taken to prevent accidents till now, they may be failures because we didn’t realize the reality." He also asserted that "Deliberation of each field is required to prepare a practical measure taking this research as a momentum."

Professor Lee Young-Soon of Seoul National Industrial University said that "It is hard to accept the reality, but it is clear that the legislation of Korea related with safety must be fully revised."

Therefore, let us change the safety paradigm, taking this research as a momentum." The research team is planning to operate second analysis of occupational accident cases, and at the same time, it will be officially presented to the new government.



- Occupational Accidents Not Reported are 30 Times the Reported Figure in Statistical Data

**Follow-up measures on the government to tighten management of cerebrovascular diseases have been established one after another, including newly founded Epidemic Research Center in KOSHA. After Ministry of Labor announced that it will operate nurse-visiting system from the next year to prevent cerebrovascular diseases, the Ministry also notified that it will establish the Epidemic Research Center in KOSHA to inspect and analyze occupational safety and health and its reality. The Ministry is planning to establish 'A Cerebrovascular Disease Prevention Team,' in the headquarter of KOSHA, where it will be composed of experts in occupational medicine, health and tendence. For the newly established Epidemic Center, total of 16 officials will be allocated, which is more than 2-fold compared to the existing number.**

**KOSHA has recently taken an epidemic research related to group deaths in Hankook Tire, after being offered by the Ministry of Labor.**

**As a research on Hankook Tire drew a lot of interest and attention from the public, 'epidemic research' itself has also raised their interest and the assertion that it is gaining and strengthening its power.**

**If the Epidemic Center is established, it would make it easier to link the occupational diseases and jobs.**

**On the other hand, the Ministry of Labor plans to allocate a doctor specialized in occupational medicine at each local center to support management of cerebrovascular diseases for companies and agencies under their management.**

- Epidemic Research Center is going to be Established in KOSHA

**KOSHA is hosting a "Presentation of Good Practices for Safety Activities in Construction Field for 2008" for settlement of self-imposed safety activities in construction field and also to improve the level of safety technology. This presentation will be delivered during the 41st Occupational Safety and Health Week in June, in order to reinforce and disseminate good practices of safety activities in each construction site.**

**Following is the list of the organizations participating in the meeting.**

**? Good practices of safety control in subcontractor from a construction company**

**? Improvement of safety and health equipment in construction field**

**? Development of skills and/or a methods for safe work**

**? Other activities for safety and health of construction workers**

**12 work fields will be selected after reviewing and examining the application forms and their work sites. Selected applicants will deliver the presentation at the 41st Occupational Safety and Health Week, which will be held from 29 June to 4 July.**

- Occupational Diseases will be Decreased by 20% in 5 Years

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- Agreement on Safety and Health related with Polyurethane Foam

**KOSHA and Songnae construction field of GS Construction made an agreement of "Joint Development of Video Education Program to Prevent Accidents in Construction Fields," on 22 February, Friday.**

**As a result of several times monitoring safety managers by the Agency, in construction fields of the metropolitan area, it is proved that accident-preventing contents following each process and each work unit is the most favored. That result is reflected to the education program, so 30 pieces (20 for construction and 10 for civil engineering) of educational videos according to each work unit will be made and distributed until the end of this year.**

**The purpose of this agreement is to develop the content which is practically helpful to prevent accidents, by participation of actual construction workers.**

**Seeing that former-developed programs were unpractical, being wasted after one-time use simply because they were made to raise the consciousness of workers in drama type.**

**- This content is going to be distributed in on-line type, other than existing off-line ones, so that it is expected that safety managers would fully, variously and continuously use it by inserting it in various educational programs.**

**A majority of deaths due to accidents in construction fields were not inevitable only by observing the process and method for safe work. This video program would be developed according to the process and method for safe work in each construction field. It is expected to be helpful to prevent death-accidents in construction field, where new workers of less than 6 months of carrier take charge of 82.37% of total workers, as of November 2007.**

- **OSH Events**

- **KOSHA has Opened the Photo Competition to the Public with the Theme "Safety and Health in Workplaces and in Daily Lives"**

**A worker treating chemicals at a semiconductor industry has experienced serious health problems, and it has become a rising social issue in Korea. Along with the rising issue, industrial management for the exposure of 13 harmful substances including benzene and n-hexane have gotten more strict. In order to maintain strict management, a programme will be offered to the businesses to easily manage and control chemicals that are used in the industries.**

**KOSHA has developed and is offering an on-line 'MSDS-Editing Program.' When the name of the chemical is entered, the programme automatically produces detailed information about the chemical including its character, hazard, warnings, emergency procedures when exposed on skin or consumed internally, safe management and more.**

- For example, a company wants to get information about benzene. They would put the word 'benzene' in 'MSDS-Editing' program, to get required data about safety and health of benzene and other related chemicals. Mixed chemical compound would also work when the names of composed element and ratio are known. The information will include results of classified hazard, warnings, emergency procedures when exposed on skin or consumed internally.

**KOSHA plans to include 2,500 additional chemicals annually, and also develop a function for industries to freely edit the information in their own computers.**

**KOSHANET**  
K O S H A N E T

SAFETY & HEALTH DATA BASE

안전보건 DB | 멀티미디어 DB | K2B | **통신교육센터** | 참여기업 | 안전보건 커뮤니티 | **회원 MY PAGE**

회원 | 회원 홈페이지 | 내 뉴스/정보관리 | 회원정보수정

안전보건DB | MSDS/IGHS

안전보건DB 상세화면보기

MSDS

MSDS Editing

MSDS Editing (O) 안전보건DB MSDS Editing (O) MSDS Editing

☒ 물질명 ☐ 반응성/동태성 ☐ CAS NO ☐ KE NO ☐ LBN NO ☐ EC NO ☐ 본문

물질명: formaldehyde

CAS NO	물질명	양수율
110-54-5	노발목수화인	30 <input type="button" value="이"/>
79-00-5	1,1'-비닐이소프로페라이드	30 <input type="button" value="이"/>
25168-55-6	오소, 폴리아미드 WITH 포름알데하이드 AND 글리콜(UPEA POLYMER WITH FORMALDEHYDE A)	40 <input type="button" value="이"/>

- There was an event where top quality fire-fighting devices from world ´s leading organizations gathered at one place.**

**The National Emergency Management Agency jointly held ‘2008 International Expo on Fire-Fighting and Emergency Management’ with Daegu city at Daegu Expo, from 19 to 21 March. The 5th Expo was jointly hosted by the Korea Fire Equipment Inspection Corporation, EXCO, and KOTRA, at which 250 advanced companies from 20 countries, and about 70 thousands buyers and experts from 40 countries participated. This year, the Ministry of Construction and Transportation, Korea Railroad Research Institute, Korea Electrical Safety Corporation, Korea Gas Corporation, Korea Petrochemistry Engineering Corporation, Korea Electric Engineers Association and more have participated for the first time. In addition, invited experts from fire-fighting and accident prevention in advanced countries including US, Sweden and Germany held an international**

symposium, where advanced technologies and 911 cases were introduced. There were also announcements and test-run events of new products, seminars and paper presentation, as well as safety experience and exhibition of fire-fighting devices for general visitors.



- Presentation of Good Practices related to 'Establishing Safety and Health System for the Public Facility Managing Organizations and Discussion on Prevention of Occupational Accidents

**KOSHA held a meeting composed of presentation of good practices related to "Establishing Safety and Health System for the Public Facility Managing Organizations (KOSHA 18001)" and discussion on prevention of occupational accidents on 13 March, Thursday. 30 officials in collaboration with KOSHA's Facilities Management Corporation participated from Busan, Daegu, Ulsan, Changwon, Masan and Jinhae regions.**

**In this meeting, experts of the Corporation and practical workers of the company at which KOSHA 18001 was established have announced their experiences. In addition, participants have exchanged information on safety and health system, and thoroughly discussed about the improvement to prevent occupational accidents.**

**KOSHA has visited and examined companies who have established KOSHA 18001 since July 1997, and issued certificates for those who scored high level standards. The number of awarded certificates reached 394, where the public organizations took about 10%, resulting in 37 sites. The public organizations with the awarded certificates include Seongnam Facilities Management Corporation, Daegu Dyeing Industrial Center, and Incheon and Gwangju Metro.**

**The host of this meeting, KOSHA, have clarified that this would be a momentum to establish a higher quality safety and health system which will produce better public services by allowing Facilities Management Corporation perceive the needs and effect of the System.**



- **New Materials**

- Safety and Health Management for Industrial Chemicals Gets Easier

**A worker treating chemicals at a semiconductor industry has experienced serious health problems, and it has become a rising social issue in Korea. Along with the rising issue, industrial management for the exposure of 13 harmful substances including benzene and n-hexane have gotten more strict. In order to maintain strict management, a programme will be offered to the businesses to easily manage and control chemicals that are used in the industries.**

**KOSHA has developed and is offering an on-line 'MSDS-Editing Program.' When the name of the chemical is entered, the programme automatically produces detailed information about the chemical including its character, hazard, warnings, emergency procedures when exposed on skin or consumed internally, safe management and more.**

**The programme is posted on KOSHA's official website (www.kosha.net) for companies and industries to have an easy access to wide range of information about the chemicals.**

**- For example, a company wants to get information about benzene. They would put the word 'benzene' in 'MSDS-Editing' program, to get required data about safety and health of benzene and other related chemicals. Mixed chemical compound would also work when the names of composed element and ratio are known. The information will include results of classified hazard, warnings, emergency procedures when exposed on skin or consumed internally.**

**KOSHA will provide safety and health related data for 1,148 single chemical through this program, where the programme will also provide information about the compound molecules for the convenience of users.**

**KOSHA plans to include 2,500 additional chemicals annually, and also develop a function for industries to freely edit the information in their own computers.**

The screenshot shows the 'MSDS Editing' interface on the KOSHANET website. The header includes the KOSHANET logo and navigation tabs like '안전보건 DB', 'MSDS', and 'MSDS Editing'. The main content area is titled 'MSDS Editing' and features a search bar with the text 'formaldehyde'. Below the search bar, there are checkboxes for '물질명' (checked), 'CAS NO', 'KE NO', 'UN NO', 'EC NO', and '분류'. A table displays search results for 'formaldehyde' with columns for 'CAS NO', '물질명', and '화학식'. The results include '112-54-5' for '포름알데하이드' (Formaldehyde) and '25114-52-4' for '요소, 폴리아미드 WITH 요소알데하이드 AND 폴리아미드 WITH 요소알데하이드 HYDRAZINE'.

CAS NO	물질명	화학식
112-54-5	포름알데하이드	$\text{HCHO}$
25114-52-4	요소, 폴리아미드 WITH 요소알데하이드 AND 폴리아미드 WITH 요소알데하이드 HYDRAZINE	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$

- Publication and Distribution of Health-Care Handbook to Prevent Occupational Diseases such as Cerebrovascular Disease

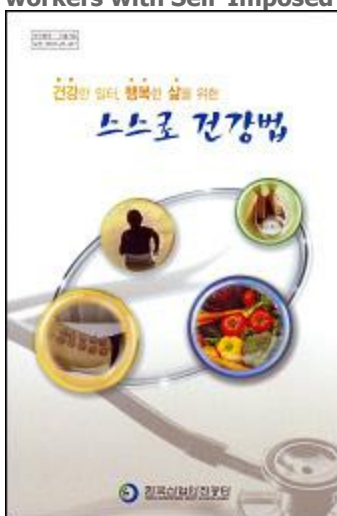
**KOSHA has published and distributed a handbook "A Self-Imposed Care for a Healthy Workplace and a Happy Life" to prevent occupational diseases, "to support activities of managing safety and health of workers, and to prevent occupational diseases such as cerebrovascular disease and musculoskeletal disorder.**

**KOSHA produced technical materials where it focused on workers' self-imposed care for preventing cerebrovascular diseases and musculoskeletal disorders. Possible risk factors for the diseases include aging workforce, structure of industrial society, diversification of living habits, and overworking and stress at the field.**

**"A Self-Imposed Care for a Healthy Workplace and a Happy Life to prevent occupational diseases" contains 8 sessions of western and oriental medical science, including basic factor of cerebrovascular disease, musculoskeletal disorder, and lung cancer.**

**- KOSHA has produced the western medicine part, while expertise in oriental medicine was written by the Korean Society for Oriental Internal Medicine. The information about the oriental medicine was edited and proof read by an expert doctor/researcher working at KOSHA.**

**1000 copies of this health care handbooks were made and distributed to safety and health professionals in each company and sponsoring organizations for "National Treasury of Safety Management in Small Enterprises," where KOSHA anticipates active dissemination would help workers with Self-Imposed Care.**



- Translation and Dissemination of Investigation to Inspect Harmful Factors of Foreign Workers

**KOSHA has translated a questionnaire to inspect harmful factors when foreign workers perform musculoskeletal structure-burdening work. The questionnaire consists of basic symptom-asking questions, which are translated and offered online on a website.**

**The data is a form following technical instructions from the Agency to inspect harmful factors to prevent musculoskeletal disorders. It would be used to estimate working status and conditions as well as self-conscious symptoms.**

**Many foreign workers perform heavy and repetitive physical labor. In addition, it has been difficult for them to answer the questionnaires regarding musculoskeletal disorders because most of them could not understand Korean. The basic questionnaire for harmful factors (in English) and the questionnaire for workers (in 10 languages including English, Chinese, Indonesian and Vietnamese) will be used to accurately grasp and prevent musculoskeletal disorders of foreign workers.**

**The numbers of muscular and skeletal patients among foreign workers in domestic companies were 10 in 2005, 52 in 2006, 52 in September, 2007. This data can be freely downloaded from KOSHA website (<http://www.kosha.or.kr>, Health Project > Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorder > Data Room.)**

- Safety Education for Workers, Lets do it Together with Q, a Female Detective

**Wouldn't it be effective if an attractive female detective shows up on safety education site to kindly explain about the risk factors and prevention methods of accidents? KOSHA offers such safety educating animation for free, with the title '24 Hours at the Headquarter of Accident' where a imaginative female detective 'Q' appears.**

**The animation has reconstructed actual cases of accidents which have occurred in industrial fields. The female detective Q investigates the accident, while informing important factors and safety measures in detail.**

**- Main accidents are, falling while painting a steel frame, electric shock from electronic drill, falling objects during loading and unloading. 24 cases in total are shown, where 12 are from construction sites and another 12 are from manufacturing sites.**

**If you want to use the animation for education purposes, you can download it from KOSHA internet webzine([wish.kosha.net](http://wish.kosha.net)). The animation may also be sent through the E-mail if requested.**

