

# 2008 Newsletter

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- **Topics**

- Largest scale expected of the 18th World Congress on Safety and Health at Work

**It is predicted that the 18th World Congress on Safety and Health at Work will be held in the largest scale from 28 June till 2 July in Seoul, Korea to be the real global festival of safety and health.**

**Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA) announced that 3,840 participants from 117 countries registered in advance for the congress, which stands for largest scope of participant countries and delegates in the history of the congress.**

**The congress of the largest scope recorded so far was the 17th Congress in U.S. in 2005, where 2,607 delegates from 112 countries participated in the congress. Of the registered participants, 2,342 are from Korea, and 1,498 from the foreign countries. Of those from foreign countries, 539 are from Asia, 482 from Europe, 200 from Americas, 253 from Africa, and 24 from Oceania: Delegates responsible for occupational safety and health will visit from every corner of the world. In particular, key persons and ministers of management-labor relation from some ten countries including Singapore, and CEO's of world-leading multinational corporations will participate in the congress: Including Juan Somavia, Secretary General of International Labor Organization (ILO); Corazon de la Paz, President of International Society Security Association (ISSA); and Carlos Alfonso Tomada, Minister of Labor and Employment of Argentina.**

**Since elected the official hosting organization at the congress held in Sep, 2005, KOSHA had received applications for participation in the congress in advance from people responsible for occupational safety and health businesses in the world over the official homepage ([www.safety2008korea.org](http://www.safety2008korea.org)), and via fax and e-mail.**

**KOSHA continues to receive applications to accommodate increased number of applications after the closing date of the advance registration, and will accept applications for registration at the scene of the congress during the congress period. The delegates will be given opportunity for participating in the various events of the congress: Safety and Health Summit with representatives of labor, management and government, those of safety & health institutes and CEO of corporation from various countries; six technical sessions with experts of occupational safety & health nationally and abroad; Regional Meeting from respective regions such as Americas and Europe; and 48 symposiums. "KOSHA will commit its best endeavors into performing the 18th World Congress expected of largest scope to demonstrate the safety & health level to the world, and to enhance the image of Korea,"**

said, Joon-Won Lee, Secretary General of the Secretariat for 18th World Congress, "We sincerely invite interests and active participation of the citizens who are highly concerned in safety & health."

- Postponing GHS system to 2015

**Enforcement of Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) expected to be enforced July this year was postponed to 2015.**

**The Ministry of Labor notified the revision order for part of the enforcement regulations of Occupational Safety and Health Act reflecting the postponement, and explained postponement was inevitable since that the businesses in Korea has not been ready for enforcing the system, and necessity was emerged for coordination with EU and other countries for the enforcement timeframe taking into account of the system nature demanding international coordination.**

**The revision order stipulates the application time of MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet) is postponed to Jun., 2010 for reestablishing warning marks and safety & health labels of chemicals, and the classification criteria of harmful factors; and that control of materials containing two or more chemical components to 31 Dec., 2014. The current criteria will be applied up to the dates respectively.**

**MSDS is a data containing nomenclatures, physiochemical characteristics and know acute/chronic disease data of chemicals, and is regarded as a measure for enforcing Global Harmonization System (GHS) for classification and marking of hazard and risks of the chemicals.**

**Currently, classification, labeling and testing methods of the chemicals are dispersedly in different laws including the Harmful Material Safety Management Act, the Harmful Chemicals Management Act, and the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Regulations and marks of the chemicals are different among the countries, and the Ministry of Labor indicated that introduction of GHS is nationwide issue, and demands joint coordination at the government level through collaboration among the competent authorities.**

**It is expected that introduction of GHS is helpful for enhancing nation's competitiveness through elimination of barriers in trades and technologies, and improving administrative systems such as Harmful Material Safety Management Act.**

**In addition, the Ministry of Labor explained that efforts shall be exercised for maximum damping of effects from introduction of the system, and postponement of enforcing the system pursuant to this revision order will ensure precise execution of the system in the future. This revision order is subject to public opinions of the citizens by 26 Jun., 2008.**

- **OSH Administrative Activities**

- Renovating the structure of the Occupational Safety and Health Act into model of advanced countries

**The Ministry of Labor plans to concentrate in renovating the current occupational safety & health systems into the models of the advanced countries for the purpose of enhancing rationality of the regulations on occupational safety and health.**

The ministry also plans to establish a detailed classification system of the safety and health criteria for respective business types and hazardous factors through outsourced research services.

At the meeting held by the Safety and Environment Research Center (chaired by Hyeong-Nam Mun) of Maeil Economic Daily at Hotel Ritz Carlton on 14 May, 2008, Chong-su Chung, Deputy Minister of Labor emphasized, "Reducing occupational accident rate is one of the major tasks; however, establishing system for preventive health improvement is urgent and significant task for lifelong health management of workers," when describing the Orientation of Labor Policies in 2008 of the ministry.

The deputy minister announced the ministry's activities based on the basic direction: ? Significant enhancement of guidance activities for establishing and executing preventive measures by management against probability of cerebro-cardiovascular system disorders such as cerebral hemorrhage and heart attack taking into account of health diagnosis results and working conditions; and ?Expansion of infrastructure for preventing asbestos-induced diseases by introducing registration system of businesses for asbestos disintegration and removal, and designation system of analysis institutes. He also described the plans of the ministry: ?Elevating strictness of exposure criteria for 42 chemical materials that fail in meeting the international criteria, and providing information card summarized hazardousness and risks, and treatment methods of the major chemicals; and ?Discussion with the Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs on expansion of number of the Regional Center for Occupational Safety and Health from a single center in Banwol/Sihwa Area to 12 centers by 2012.

The deputy minister also described that establishment of differentiated prevention measures is one of the critical issues of the labor administration in the fields subject to frequent accidents for the purpose of reducing the current accident rate (0.7% since 2000), and announced that the ministry will concentrate its efforts into preventive management of the major types of accidents (being caught, fall and overturn), which stand for 50% of the entire accidents.

The Ministry of Labor plans to reduce number of accident victims down to 22,500 through focused management of small business places highly subject to the three major accidents by 2012.

- Special inspection of safety in rainy season at major construction sites

**"Safety accident shall be prevented at the construction sites in the rainy season this year."**

Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Land Transport and Maritime Affairs and Public Prosecutor's Office started active programs for preventing construction sites from safety accidents in the rainy season. These authorities are currently executing the inspection activities at work sites vulnerable to occupational accidents, and will initiate full-force inspection of some 900 construction sites in rainy season for a full month of June.

The Ministry of Labor announced that the ministry will start full inspection of construction sites highly probable of accident for a full month from June 2 till June 30 in the rainy season of frequent accidents such as flooding and washout.

This general checkup will focus on the some 900 construction sites highly subject to hazardous factors such as flooding, washout and electric shock, and cover accident prevention measures of falling and dropping, and control status of inflammable materials.

The authorities will allow a period of correction for any breaches; however, will strictly exercise their power such as judicial actions or order of suspension of work for any business sites showing extremely poor preventive measures for disasters such as washout. In addition, the appropriate authorities will distribute Safety/Health Guideline at Construction Sites in Rainy Season containing safety measures for respective hazardous factors and practices of safety checkout for each process in the rainy season to the construction sites to allow the sites autonomously improve their practices for safety and health.

"We will encourage improvement of safety management as well as exercise strict actions such as judicial measures and order of suspension of work to any site with poor measures for safety in the rainy season," said Hyeon-Taek Eom, Director of Occupational Safety and Health of the Ministry of Labor, "We will also alert management of the actions I have stated so far."

Safety/Health Guideline at Construction Sites in Rainy Season is posted on the website of the Ministry of Labor ([www.molab.go.kr](http://www.molab.go.kr)) and the Safety & Health Information Services of KOSHA ([www.kosha.net](http://www.kosha.net)).

The general checkup has been executed on the verge of the rainy season every year, and resulted in orders of correction: 3,515 orders including 28 orders of suspension of work and 42 orders of suspension of use among 1,016 business sites in 2006; and 3,569 orders including 48 orders of suspension of work and 55 orders of suspension of use among 984 sites in 2007.

- Restoration of mandatory requirements for preparing the hazard and risk prevention plan of manufacture industries

The Ministry of Labor determined to restore the mandatory conditions of submitting the hazard and risk prevention plans of the manufacturing industries to enhance the framework of advanced country in safety field, and first made it mandatory of submitting the plans for the industries of metal-machined products and mineral mining from the next year.

Accordingly, the ministry made an advance notice for re-legislation of Revision Order of Enforcement Regulations of Occupational Safety and Health Act (draft) on 6 May, 2008.

The revised act will be effective as of 1 Jan., 2009.

The objective of preparing the revision order of the enforcement regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (draft) by the ministry is interpreted as a part of the policy for reducing occupational accident rate in the manufacture industries down to 50% by 2012.

The revision order forces mandatory submission of the plan from business places with sum of rated current of power supply facility greater than 300 kilo watts in the metal-machined products and the mineral products industries other than those of machinery and fixtures after reflecting the public opinions by 26 May, 2008.

**There has been the system for the plan of hazard and risk prevention, but operated with mandatory requirements for submission exempted.**

**This revision order was made for selecting target business types by rationally reflecting the situations on the Occupational Safety and Health Act, which has been changed since regulation relief in 1997 in the current situation that the duty of submitting the plan for the manufacture industries has been restored pursuant to amendment of the Act.**

**The Ministry of Labor indicated that it will incrementally expand enforcement of the requirements as it anticipates reduction of the occupational accidents by mandatory submission of the plans from the businesses highly subject to occupational accident rate.**

- **The government supports part of costs for special health diagnosis at small and medium businesses (SMB) from next year**

**The government plans to support part of the special diagnosis costs for establishing system for early detection and prevention of diseases of workers, and activation of health improvement.**

**Pursuant to this plan, it is highly probable that SMBs designated by the government are entitled to applying supports of the government from the occupational accident funds from July, 2009. SMBs had to bear all of the costs for the diagnosis.**

**There has been rapid increase of work-related diseases such as stress-induced diseases and chronic diseases because of changes in dietary and living practices, and aging trends of workers, and Ministry of Labor determined to provide aggressive measures to respond the situation.**

**The program under consideration of the Ministry of Labor consists of: ?Replacement of part of the costs for special diagnosis that SMBs are responsible for with the occupational accident funds; ?Expansion of selection scope of diagnosis institutes by workers, and quality improvement and reliability securing of special health diagnosis through introduction of assessment system of diagnosis institutes; and ?Securing the budgets in advance, and providing supports to SMBs from 1 July, 2009.**

**"The amount for supporting the special diagnosis for SMBs is not determined yet; however, the amount is predicted some 10 billion KRW annually," said a responsible person at the Ministry of Labor, "Business with employees less than 50 persons will be defined as an SMB." Support ratio is under discussion at the ministry.**

**Number of victims of cerebro-cardiovascular system disorders (i.e., arteriosclerosis and angina pectoris) stands for about 50% of the total number of the fatal illnesses of occupational diseases, and, in particular, about 60% of the former occurred at SMB's with less than 50 employees.**

**Meantime, the Ministry of Labor is currently consulting with competent authorities such as the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Family Affairs on measures for improving common health diagnosis items and diagnosis criteria for earlier detection of basal disease such as hypertension and diabetes not to mention assessment of risk of cerebro-cardiovascular system disorders. In addition, the**

**ministry is under consideration of visiting services of industrial nurses to businesses with less than 50 employees that are subject to frequent cerebro-cardiovascular system disorders.**

- Cherishing the memory of victims on the 8th Day of Victims of Occupational Accidents

**An event was held for cherishing the memory of the victims of occupational accidents, and demanding restoration of honor and interest improvement of the victims of occupational accidents. FKTU (chaired by Seok-Chun Jang) held the 8th Day of Victims of Occupational Accidents at Boramae Park on 28 April, 2008 with 150 participants including Chong-soo Chung, Deputy Minister of Labor, Kil-Sang Park, President of Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA), and Won-Bae Kim, President of the Korea Workers' Compensation & Welfare Service**

**The memorial event at the day of victims of occupational accidents is held yearly jointly with International Trade Union Confederation for cherishing the memory of the some 70 thousand victims since 1964, and demanding honor recovery and interest improvement of the 3 million and 700 thousand workers suffered from occupational accidents.**

**"FKTU will gain its posture again for completion of innovation for all of the workers including part-timers, subcontractor employees, migrant workers and those hired upon special conditions this year," said Seok-Chun Jang, Chairman of FKTU in his memorial speech, "FKTU will commit its best endeavors in honor recovery and interest improvement of workers suffered from occupational accidents, and in securing safe and sound rights of the workers."**

**In its resolution, FKTU promised to devote every effort in activities for preventing occupational accidents, objection against regulation relieving relevant to occupational safety and health, strict enforcement of applicable laws and regulations, recovery of jobs of the workers suffering from occupation accidents, and collaboration among labor, management and the government for livelihood and medical insurance coverage, and for demanding the government to ratify the international labor standards soonest for securing safety and health of workers.**

**The program of the day proceeded with the order of the progress report, awarding model workers for occupational accidents, commendations from the government, reading memory cherishing statements, repose of souls, determination of the resolution for eliminating occupational accidents, and wreath-laying and burning incense.**

- **Statistics**

- Achieving number of death by safety accidents to the level of OECD countries

**It is anticipated that number of death of safety accident reduces by half pursuant to the strong drive of policies by the government.**

**MOPAS plans to declare this year as Original Year of Advanced Safety, and reduce annual number of death by safety accidents down to 15,000 from 30,000 to achieve the average level of OECD countries. MOPAS notified Comprehensive Measures for Safety Accident Prevention containing the plan on 24 April, 2008.**

Comprehensive Measures for Safety Accident Prevention will be enforced as of July in 2008 after review inside MOPAS, and MOPAS determined to concentrate on improvement of safety concept of the citizens, and establishing infrastructure for safety accident prevention through overall controlling the safety management tasks, supplementing adjustment functions and enhancing measures for livelihood of safety-weak people.

In addition, MOPAS plans to arrange laws and regulations relevant to safety accident by switching symbolic and formal policies and systems for safety accident prevention into those of reality and practicality for efficient safety accident prevention, and to install "National Safety Policy Consulting Committee" at MOPAS by integrating various consulting committees installed in different central administration authorities for safety accident.

In addition, MOPAS plans make choice of A Hundreds Tasks for Safety Accident Prevention for preventing safety accidents of weak people including children, elders and disabled in the first half in this year, and develop prevention programs for respective types of safety accidents and establish infrastructure including fundamental safety facilities.

"Comprehensive Measures for Safety Accident Prevention" contains creating safe residence area for safe residence environment, building infrastructure for improving safety concept, environment formation and safety accident prevention, legislation for safe pedestrians' environment, and establishing traffic infrastructure.

- **Update in KOSHA**

- Earlier reaction saved four workers intoxicated with DMF

The chemical materials management program developed by KOSHA begins its effects.

There is an actual case that this program saved lives of four workers intoxicated with DMF (demethylformamide).

KOSHA announced an actual case that Mr. H worked at the process handling DMF as a staff at Company A, an artificial leather manufacturer since end of December in 2007 has suffered from stomach ache and eyeball ache from Feb., 2008, who recognized symptoms similar to those indicated on the DMF intoxication hazard label, and made a call to KOSHA office. KOSHA immediately alert DMF intoxication accident at the end of February, executed technical supports and special health diagnosis for Company A, and have the company transfer Mr. H to a position free from DMF. KOSHA succeeded in detecting total four workers intoxicated with DMF, and performed activities to save them.

KOSHA has established the Workplace Health Promotion Program for the purpose of creating healthy workplaces to protect health of workers through prevention of occupational diseases and acute intoxication accidents resulted from hazardous chemical materials.

The typical programs operated by KOSHA include: Survey of 30 chemical materials inducing occupational diseases for five years (six chemicals per year) since 2006; establishing collaboration system with regional occupational health experts and health management institutes; operation of

regional cooperative commissions for business places experienced acute intoxication accidents by chemical materials, rapid alerting occupational diseases upon intoxication accidents, distribution of information for chemical intoxication prevention appropriate for respective business places, and Workplace Health Promotion (WHP) program.

In addition, KOSHA has been enhancing the occupational disease monitoring system jointly with occupational medical organizations including executing an agreement with Korean Society of Occupational & Environmental Medicine for health promotion of workers in November last year.

"KOSHA will continue to commit its efforts into enhancing occupational disease monitoring systems equivalent to those of advanced countries and eliminating death accident due to chemical intoxication in 2008 based on the results of the achievement for saving four workers intoxicated with DMF," said a staff at KOSHA.

- Concentrated activities for accident prevention at 8000 business place annually selected from those of frequent accidents

Concentrated supports from the government are provided to the conventional business places with frequent occurrences of the three major occupational accidents: Overturn, being caught and fall in this year. 8,000 workplaces were selected for supporting activities for preventing occupational accidents this year. The Ministry of Labor announced that they will execute concentrated supporting activities including safety & health education courses for employers, technical and financial support, and safety & health management of the business places for total 40,000 businesses by 2012; 8,000 business in respective years.

The analysis results of the ministry of types of accidents for 90,147 victims of occupational accidents occurred in the last year indicate that the three major accidents stands for about 50% of the total accidents: Overturn 18% (16231 victims), being caught 17.6% (15,881) and fall 13.1% (11,834).

The Ministry of Labor plans to define and enforce Concentrated Supporting Activities for Preventing Three Major Frequent Accident to reduce number of victims down to 20 thousands from 40 thousands by 2012. During this period, the ministry will execute safety & health education courses for employers, technical supports through visits to the business places by technical staffs from KOSHA and civil organizations for accident prevention, and financial support for accident prevention appropriate for the conditions of the safety and health at the business places.

Further, the ministry plans to execute campaigns for improving concept on significance of accident prevention to workers and employers, and maximize effects of the program by inviting employers to the campaign.

8000 businesses experienced the three major frequent accidents for last five years will be selected annually.

Any workplaces without correction activities of any failure identified in the concentrated checkout after the technical and financial support shall be subject to judicial actions or other penalty such as fine.



In particular, the Ministry of Labor indicated that the objective of 'concentrated supporting program for preventing three major frequent accidents' is, unlike spot preventive checkout, to continuously reducing the accidents through consistent management of the business places through safety and health educational courses for awareness improvement of employers, technical and financial supporting, and concentrated checkout activities.

- Home-grown S-Mark replaces certificates of safety of other countries

**The S-Mark system, a home-grown safety certification system, has rapidly been replacing other foreign certification systems such as SEMI in U.S., and CE Mark in Europe, based on recognition of reliability and safety and supports from the domestic businesses.**

**In particular, following Samsung Electronics, LG Display demanded acquisition of S-Mark certificates for systems supplied to the company, and it is expected that acquisition of S-Mark by the concerned industries will dramatically be grown.**

**Occupational Safety & Health Research Institute(chaired by Doo-Yong Park) of Korea Occupational Safety & Health Agency (KOSHA) executed education on the S-Mark certification system to some 70 persons from the concerned businesses delivering semiconductor systems at the training center of LG Display in Paju City.**

**LG Display determined to introduce the S-Mark system in full force as the in-house safety standard for advanced systems delivered to them. To reflect this situation, the education course included S-Mark system and procedures necessary for acquiring S-Mark, roles of system designers for safety of systems, and requirements for S-Mark certification. "Acquisition of S-Mark demands determined thought of management for occupational accident prevention, and of workers for safety," said Jae-Jong Jung, Director of Center for Safety Testing and Certification, "The center will continue to enhance technological supports and various education courses for securing fundamental safety in industrial machinery."**

- Diagnosis of occupational safety and health at business places employing low-income workers

**It is planned to execute systematic safety & health diagnosis at the business places employing low-income workers performing difficult labor-concentrate jobs such as assortment of waste materials such as PCs or home appliances.**

**The Seoul Regional Office(Director: Yong-Soo Hong) of Korea Occupational Safety & Health Agency (KOSHA) entered in an agreement called "Agreement on Support for Safety & Health Diagnosis at Business Places of Self-Sufficiency Employees" with the Welfare and Health Bureau (Director: Geun-Hong Lee) of the Gyeonggi Province and the Gyeonggi Province Self-Sufficiency Center (chaired by Jeong-Geun Lee) on 22 May, 2008. Upon execution of this agreement, KOSHA, Welfare and Health Bureau of the Gyeonggi Province and the Gyeonggi Province Self-Sufficiency Center collaborate in diagnosis of safety & health, establishment of safety management system, publication of safety management manual, and improvement of working environments for self-sufficient communities and**

**business sphere operated by Gyeonggi Province.**

**KOSHA first executed the diagnosis at four business places relevant to waste resource recycling and manufacturing highly subject to accidents, and will proceed with comprehensive supports based on the results of the diagnosis such for: Inspection of safety management and work environments; checking hazardous factors of machinery facilities; evaluation of working conditions and methods; verification of appropriateness of safety devices such as protective gears; and inspection of electric facilities. KOSHA plans further safety & health diagnosis at some 30 service business places, and establishing safety management systems for self-sufficiency business places by supporting improvement of work environments.**

- Joint development of contents for occupational accident prevention between Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency and five competent authorities

**Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency and five competent authorities for safety & health determined mutual collaboration for exchange of information and development of contents for occupational accident prevention.**

**Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency had a meeting with the following five authorities responsible for safety and health at KOSHA on 15 May, 2008, and made agreement for joint development of contents for occupational accident prevention with the authorities: Korea Industrial Safety Association, Korea Industrial Health Association, Korean Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Korea Construction Safety Engineering Association, and Korea Safety Managers Association. With this agreement, Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency is provided with opportunities receiving data of occupational accident prevention from the authorities such as research and technology data and periodicals, and recommendation of authors of educational materials for the complex. In addition, the competent authorities for safety and health and member businesses are entitled to receive Educational Material Publication Information services, information on-line published by KOSHA upon monthly basis, and utilize the services for occupational accident prevention activities.**

- KOSHA Code for Work place's safety and health

**It is reported that utilization of KOSHA Codes is high at business places: The KOSHA Codes provide different valuable information of safety and health guidelines including correct treatment methods of hazardous chemicals, fire-preventing methods during welding operation, and safe working practices at construction sites.**

**KOSHA codes are defined as the safety management guidelines classified into 13 fields such as design, process, fire, general machinery, working environments and occupational health and hygiene provided by KOSHA for voluntary safety and health management at the workplaces. KOSHA Codes provide information on processes, human body inhalation paths and effects on human bodies of**

hazardous chemicals employed at the business places, and valuable safety and health management guidelines such as standard safe work instruction on excavation in respective business types such as manufacture, construction, shipbuilding, transportation service in harbor.

KOSHA reported that KOSHA Codes recorded hits of 164,471 in the last year, which stands for increase by 17.6% from the record in the previous year. KOSHA Codes provided since 1995 are in trends of consistent increase of hits by recording 621,123 hits for the past five years.

The businesses can make access to the online safety information website of KOSHA, [kosah.net](http://kosah.net), and then select the desired contents from 13 safety management guidelines in KOSHA Codes.

KOSHA currently provide 294 safety and health technology guidelines in eight fields such as general machinery and electrics over network. KOSHA will also publish the fire-prevention technology guidelines for polyurethane foam products to reflect the fire at the freezing warehouse in Icheon occurred in Jan., 2008.

"As utilization level of the safety and health technology guidelines provided by KOSHA ever elevates and the voluntary safety and health management level grows at the businesses, KOSHA will continue to provide the current technology standards and guidelines in respective industries for further enhancing utilization of the guidelines at the businesses," said a senior staff at KOSHA.

- Occupation safety and health education via mail and over Internet

**It is allowed for safety supervisors participate in the regular safety and health education courses via mail or over Internet.**

**Occupational Safety and Health Education Institute (Director: Jin-Geul Kim) of KOSHA operates the occupational safety and health educational courses via mail and over Internet for the purpose of minimizing absence of production activities at the businesses caused by collective education, stabilize voluntary safety and health activities at the workplaces, and improve safety management capabilities of safety supervisors.**

**7,309 persons applied for the telecommunication education courses, and 7,058 successfully completed (3,677 via mail and 3,381 over Internet) the educational courses, and 4,568 are participating the courses at the moment in 2008.**

**Education course via mail is of three-month's course: Student receives educational materials and assignments and voluntary studies the courses. The two-month's educational course over Internet provides education consisted of pictures, graphics and flash animation clips.**

The educational courses consist of common courses and major courses: The common courses cover the Occupational Safety and Health Act and general safety and health; and the major courses do five fields as machinery, electrics, chemical engineering, occupational health, and construction. The educational courses over Internet provide tailored courses for allowing participants select 35 to 40 chapters independent upon majors or fields.

The further information on the applications and the courses of the education is posted on the online safety information service website of KOSHA ([www.kosha.net](http://www.kosha.net)). Or, call the Occupational Safety and Health Education Institute to 032-5100-950 for further information.

Participant completed of the telecommunication education course is exempted from the regular safety and health education for safety supervisor (16 hours a year) pursuant to the provisions in

- **Event**

- Announcement of Grand Prizes for 12th Quality Protective Systems and Devices Contest

**The welder's automatic opening protective mask fixed on safety helmet from SERVORE won the grand prize at the 12th Quality Protective Systems and Devices Contest held by the Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute of KOSHA for preventing occupational accidents for the purpose of enhancing quality competitiveness of the domestic protective systems and devices.**

**The welder's automatic opening protective mask fixed on safety helmet from SERVORE won the grand prize (to be awarded with the medal of the President of KOSHA, and one million KRW) is designed with integrated design of safety helmet and the welder's protective mask for each detachment, improves stability while wearing it, and is acknowledged with convenience during welding work and safety with its protective lenses inside the mask.**

**The second prize (to be awarded with the medal of the President of KOSHA, and 500 thousand KRW) was won by SHOEMAX with its product of leather safety shoes applied with elastic materials on the ankles for comfortable use, and insoles for protecting musculoskeletal diseases, and SAMHWA M-TECH with its single-phase pressure-resistant explosion-proof blower with enhanced stability by removing sparks through contactless design of the single-phase motor first in Korea.**

**The third prize (to be awarded with the medal of the President of KOSHA, and 300 thousand KRW) was won by HKC with its limit switch box mounted with visual recognition device of hydrogen explosion-proof design, 3M Korea with its anti-dust mask applied with band design for higher convenience and tightness, and BOSS Corp. with its leather safety shoes of excellent air-permeability and pleasant wearing feel realized by material improvement for the surface and the inner padding. The innovation prize for falling accident was won by Seong-An Save with its safety belt with**

fastening role fabricated with Dyneema yarns with high-tensile strength and excellent elongation.

This contest elected seven prized works from 38 products from 31 manufacturers in domestic protective systems and devices through deliberation of the deliberation committee consisted of in-house and independent experts.

KOSHA will award and exhibit the prized works during the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work in July. KOSHA will exhibit the prized manufacturers and the works at the 2008 International Safety & Health Exhibition, publish PR booklets of the prized works for public information, and exempt fees for partial testing for development of products applied of certification.

- 20th Anniversary of Occupational Safety and Health Education Institute

**Occupational Safety and Health Education Institute, the largest occupational safety & health educational institute in Korea has provided educational courses to 300 thousand people in the fields of safety and health for 20 years.**

**The institute (Director: Jin-Geul Kim) held a celebrating event at its 20th anniversary on 26 June, 2008.**

**The institute has educated 314,020 persons in the safety & health areas as of the end of May this year since it opened in 1988.**

**At the 20th anniversary event, Su-Heon Kang, an ex-director-general, provided a lecture on operation direction of the institute, and announced a vision of safety education at schools based on the results of the educational courses at Bidu Elementary School, which has long been established of relationship with the institute. "Innovation is not optional but mandatory, and species best adapting changes will only survive," said Jin-Geul Kim, the director of the institute, "The institute will deploy educational courses desired by students through qualitative growth of the institute with educational innovation."**

- **New Materials**

- Ministry of Labor Publishes and Distributes White Book on Labor 2008

**The Ministry of Labor published the White Book on Labor 2008 containing labor administration and achievement records in 2007, and started distributing the books on May 29, 2008.**

**The major contents of the White Book on Labor 2008 are the projects executed by the Ministry of Labor including; overview and assessment of labor policies, development of occupational competence, improving working conditions for labor-weak groups, making safe and pleasant workplaces, and enhancement of international labor cooperation.**

- Distributing 180 thousand sheets of posters for accident prevention

**KOSHA distributes the posters to the workplaces for inspiring safety concept of workers.**

**KOSHA announced that it will produce 180 thousand sheets of six posters for occupational prevention campaign to the businesses in Korea for utilizing them for accident prevention on 16 Apr., 2008.**

**The posters to be distributed consist of six prized works at the open competition held by KOSHA last year including Occupational Safety A, the grand prize work, and other five prized works such as "The More Stronger the Safe, the Higher the Happiness Index Grows," "Safety of Father Stands for My Happiness," "Prevention is Safety," "Safety Concept, the Bud of Happy Future," and "Everyone Shall be Cautious for Safety."**

**The posters are produced in size of 520 mm x 740 mm for easily posting at the businesses.**

**If you desire to receive the posters, please contact the Education and PR Team of KOSHA.**

**Jung-Youl Han, the director of Education and Culture Division of KOSHA said, "KOSHA hopes the posters distributed to the businesses in the country contribute to improvement of safety concept of workers whenever they see the posters in every season."**