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KOSHA unveils New Corporate Design and Visions

Announces new visions, including reducing accident rate to 0.5% level by 2014

December 8, 2011

On December 8, 2011, Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency(KOSHA; President: Baek, Hun-Ki) unveiled its new corporate identity (CI), in an effort to reinvent itself as a professional body working together with the general public to prevent accidents occurring at work.

The new CI was launched during the ceremony to mark 24th anniversary of KOSHA's establishment, which took place in the KOSHA HQ. On the occasion, KOSHA announced four key visions, which included reducing the rate of occupational injuries and illnesses to 0.5% level (below 0.6%) by the year 2014.

The Korean word written on the new design has been shortened as "safety and health agency." Also, the new cross-like symbol of KOSHA has been adopted to signify meanings such as safety, protection, health and happiness. The balanced and symmetrical design seeks to express dynamism.

KOSHA will start using the short version of its Korean name "Safety and Health Agency", in forms, publication materials and so on. However, the full-name "Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency" will still remain to be the official name, to be used in legal documents.

The new CI and shortened version of its name have been launched to make the agency more accessible and friendly to the general public, reflecting concerns that the previous name had too many words and was difficult to pronounce.

Along with the declaration of KOSHA's new CI, a new vision of KOSHA has been announced, which is "A

central and professional agency, working with the public to prevention accidents at work." Furthermore, KOSHA announced four strategies. The strategies put emphasis on the following:

- Goals and outcome: to maximize positive outcome
- Collaborative relations: to build a network of safety and health
- Creative workplaces: to reflect the needs of workplaces in the management
- Engagement: to strengthen communication within and between organizations.

KOSHA plans to establish a system to effectively carry out its four strategies. By doing so, it aims to achieve 6% reductions in the number of fatal injuries and injury rates in 2012, compared to the previous year. Also, by 2014, KOSHA aims to reduce the rate of occupational injuries and illnesses to 0.5% level.

"The new CI and vision are an expression of KOSHA's willingness to provide timely and high-quality services to people, while responding to the fast-changing external environment", said President Baek, Hun-Ki of KOSHA.



English Version



Korean Version



Construction Sites Attributable to 4 out of 10 Fatal Occupational Injuries

KOSHA-CAK launch collaborative projects to reduce accidents

October 11, 2010

According to statistics of worksites in 2010, four out of 10 fatal occupational injuries occurred in construction sites.

In 2010, fatal injuries at work claimed the lives of 1,383 workers in Korea. The construction industry recorded the highest fatality among other industry, accounting for 556(40%) deaths.

Fatal injuries at work in 2010

(unit: fatality)

Total (in all industries)	Construction	Manufacturing	Service	Transport & storage	Forestry	Etc. (agriculture, mining, etc.)
1,383	556	422	253	81	29	42

The types of injuries that led to fatalities in construction are : falls, which accounted for the highest number, followed by cave-ins, being struck by falling and flying objects, collisions, crushes, and so on.

Fatal injuries by injury types in construction, 2010

(unit: fatality)

Total no. of fatalities in construction	Falls	Cave-ins	being struck by falling and flying objects	collisions	crushes	Etc. (slips & trips, electrocutions, etc.)
1,383	302	51	32	26	26	119

In the first half of 2011, 295 construction workers lost their lives at work, an increase of 26 fatalities(9.7%) year on year (269 fatalities). Compared to other industries, construction industry has the highest fatality.

Against the backdrop, KOSHA joined hands with Construction Association of Korea(CAK) through an MOU to collaborate on activities aimed at reducing accidents in construction industry.



MOU on the prevention of accidents in the construction industry

- Date : October 11, 2011 (Tue.), 11:00-11:55 a.m.
- Venue : 3 fl. Construction Association of Korea, 71-2 Nonhyun-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul
- Participants : President Baek, Hun-Ki of KOSHA, Chairman Choi, Sam-Kyun of CAK, etc.

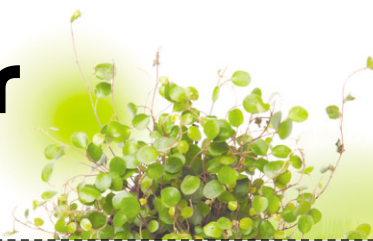
Through the MOU, KOSHA will provide statistical information on construction accidents, while facilitating the development and distribution of technical materials. The CAK will use the provided information and materials to carry out accident prevention activities and more than 7,000 worksites that are members to the CAK will benefit from the collaboration.

Furthermore, KOSHA will provide safety and health training to construction firms, and assist the members of CAK to introduce advanced safety and health techniques. In addition, KOSHA and CAK will jointly develop technical information and materials aimed at accident prevention at work.

For the prevention of accidents in construction industry, KOSHA has signed MOUs with 14 related bodies including eight organizations dedicated to construction and six public construction clients. The MOUs facilitate various prevention activities ranging from joint safety and health inspections, the provision of training, and the development and distribution of technical materials.

“The MOU with CAK, a central body in the construction industry, is very meaningful, as we work to ensure the safety of construction workers. KOSHA will provide every possible support toward CAK so that prevention culture is wide-spread in the industry,” said President Baek, Hun-Ki of KOSHA.





Safety and Health Partners for SMEs

MOEL will train 100,000 S+H partners to support small workplaces

October 2011

To assist accident prevention efforts in small workplaces, the Ministry of Employment and Labor(MOEL) will develop 100,000 safety and health partners(S+H partners). The plan was announced by the Ministry on September 27, which targets small workplaces with less than 50 employees.

Small workplaces employing less than 50 workers have no obligation to hire safety and health managers, which makes them even more vulnerable to accidents. This is why the MOEL set out to nurture and train S+H partners. In 2010, 79,797 out of 98,645(or 80.7%) of the occupational accidents victims were employed to these small workplaces.

The MOEL plans to train a total of 100,000 S+H partners by 2014. To begin with, 10,000 S+H partners will be trained as a pilot program in 2011 and 30,000 additional S+H partners will be trained in each year until 2014.

Among the S+H partners, 65,000 of them are expected to work in the manufacturing industry, 5,000 in construction, and 30,000 in service industry.

The site managers of workplaces employing less than 50 workers and technical managers or leaders of construction companies whose rankings are lower than 1,000 are eligible for becoming the S+H partners. They can receive "S+H partner certificate" after the completion of eight-hour training.

The MOEL designated 12 training institutes including KOSHA, who will be providing the training for S+H partner candidates and start the training program beginning next month.

The training program is covered by the unemployment insurance scheme in the cases of workers in the manufacturing and construction industries. For workers in the service sector, KOSHA provides free training to them.





Training on Asbestos Measurements and Analysis

KOSHA Provides Fellowship Training for Asian Safety and Health

November 1, 2011

From October 24 to 28, five safety and health officials from the developing Asia countries took part in a fellowship training program on the measurement and analysis of asbestos. The program was organized by Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute(OSHRI) of Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency(KOSHA ; President : Baek, Hun-Ki), located in Incheon, Korea.

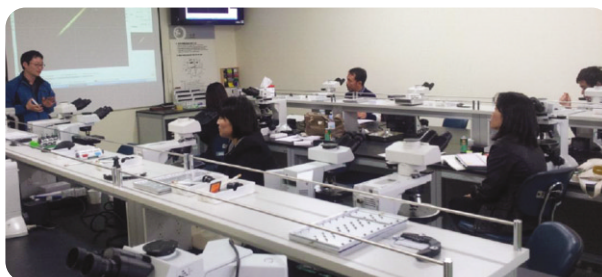
The participants were nominated from OSH-related government agencies from five Asian countries including Thailand and Vietnam.

At the Asbestos Analysis Lab, the trainees were given the opportunity to practice how to analyze and measure the levels of asbestos in the air or in solid samples of construction materials. Through these training, the trainees will be able to apply what they've learn into practice.

This training is one of the collaborative OSH programs jointly organized by KOSHA and WHO, which started in 2008. The training aims to provide assistance in building infrastructures related to the measurement and analysis of asbestos in the Asian countries.

KOSHA will cooperate with the WHO to provide as much technical assistance as possible, so that the program contributes to building relevant infrastructure for asbestos analysis, and guides the future policy-making related to asbestos management.

“The use of asbestos is showing a declining trend globally. However, developing countries in Asia are using an increasing amount of asbestos, consuming more than 50% of the global supply. This training will help developing Asian countries with poor relevant infrastructure to prevent asbestos-related diseases, while elevating the standing of both OSHRI and Korea.



〈Photo: Trainees of KOSHA-WHO program attending asbestos analysis〉



Six Organizations Collaborate to Realize “A Four Minutes’ Hope”

Six organizations including KOSHA and NEMA promise the promotion of CPR

November 3, 2011

Case 1

In April 2000, a professional baseball player of Korea suffered a heart attack during a game. He was transferred to a hospital without the administration of cardiopulmonary resuscitation(CPR). He had been brain death for 10 years and died in February 2010.

Case 2

In February 2008, Senior Manager Young-Tae Kim of KOSHA was playing badminton on a holiday. While he was playing, he witnessed a 43 year-old man(“K”) collapse onto the floor. Mr. Kim called the emergency number(199) and administered CPR on Mr. K. Mr. K had been transferred to an emergency room but was soon stabilized.

Administering CPR within four minutes from the moment a person suffers a heart attack is very crucial. The survival rate of a person who has been administered CPR is three times higher. However, the knowledge level of CPR in Korea is quite low.

In Korea an average of 20,000 persons suffer a heart attack per year, which is more than 50 cases every day. However, only 18% of the victims of heart attack have been administered CPR.(Based on the national awareness survey on emergency medical service, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Hankook Research, June 2009).

For this reason, the survival rate of heart attack sufferers in Korea is only 2.5~7%. However, countries that have high awareness on CPR have the survival rate of 15 to 18%.(Korea Association of CPR “Development and distribution of guidelines on CPR, 2011)

※ The American Heart Association emphasizes “the chain of survival” as a means to raise the survival rate of heart attack victims. That is early access, early CPR, early defibrillation, and early advanced cardiac life support.

Against the backdrop, KOSHA, National Emergency Management Agency(NEMA), Korean Red Cross, Korean Association of CPR, Life Insurance and Philanthropy Foundation, and Korean Association for Safety Communities signed an MOU. These six organizations will collaborate to raise the public awareness and public knowledge on CPR.

Overview of the MOU

- Date : November 3, 2011(Thu), 10:30~10:55
- Venue : Central Government Complex, Jongro-gu, Seoul
- Participants : Representatives from the signing organizations
NEMA, KOSHA, Korean Red Cross, Life Insurance Philanthropy Foundation, Korean Association for Safety Communities

Under the MOU, NEMA will work to make related laws, regulations, and guidelines. KOSHA on the other hand will conduct related research, and organize seminars. Korean Red Cross will also join the efforts by training professionals, publish training materials and promote CPR training administered on young children.

Furthermore, the six organizations will seek to promote safety culture under the slogan of "Careful, Watchful Korea". They will launch a nation-wide CRP parade.

The CPR parade is aimed at creating a public awareness and understanding on CPR. It is led by NEMA and region-based activities will take place in locations across Korea. In the case of Seoul region, more than 4,000 persons ranging from students and general public will gather in Jamsil Sports Complex on November 7, where they will be able to learn about the importance of CPR through various events, lectures and exhibits.

"Raising the awareness and understanding on CPR is a part of KOSHA's core mission, which is to uphold the lives of people in industrial sites. By promoting CPR, I hope safety culture takes a deep root in our lives and workplaces," said President Baek, Hun-Ki from KOSHA.





KORAIL Aims to Nip Accidents in the Bud

KORAIL receives KOSHA 18001

October 7, 2011(Friday)

Korea Railroad(KORAIL) is the operator of Korea Train Express(KTX), which has been mired in small and large scale malfunctions earlier this year. KORAIL has established advanced safety and health management system(OSHMS) and is set to recover its reputation.

As a part of monitoring enterprise-wide safety and health system, KORAIL has begun the process for OSH management certification from the start of this year, targeting 22 offices around the nation. On October 10(Mon.), seven of these offices were awarded KOSHA 18001(the OSHMS certification) by Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency(KOSHA, President : Baek, Hun-Ki).

* Seven KORAIL offices that are awarded KOSHA 18001: KORAIL HQ, Metropolitan train repair team, facility office of Gyeongju KTX, electricity office of Gyeongju KTX, regional office of Daejeon-Chungnam, facility office of Osong KTX, and electricity office of Osong KTX

The rest of 15 offices are up to the task for receiving KOSHA 18001. By taking additional endeavors to identify and remedy the hazards and risks through the risk assessments, the 15 offices aim to receive the certification by the end of this year.

KOSHA has launched step-by-step evaluation towards the seven certified offices, including site reviews, risk assessment, and the monitoring of the management. The offices that have satisfied the certification criteria were awarded with the certificates and certification plaques of KOSHA 18001 at the KORAIL HQ in Daejeon-si on October 10, 2011(Mon.).

KOSHA 18001 guides employers to set up management principles with the interest in safety and health, and provides necessary manuals, procedures, and guidance for the implementation. The certification scheme started in 1999 by KOSHA in order to prevent occupational accidents and minimize the losses of enterprises through joint efforts for improvement made by workers and employers.

Since its inception in 1999, a total of 866 workplaces have been awarded with KOSHA 18001, and this includes the 192 certified workplaces that were added to the list beginning this year until September. With many positive effects of the certification such as a 25% reduction in accidents at work, and higher safety awareness among workers and employers to name a few, more workplaces are applying for KOSHA 18001.

Based on the OSH management system established recently, KORAIL will increase on-site inspection of the facilities, secure competent safety professionals, and strengthen safety and health training, which are all aimed at guaranteeing safety. These developments will help KORAIL to set itself free from the negative reputation of the past, and improve its image as a railroad company providing safe and convenient service to its customers.

“Through the certification of KOSHA 18001 KORAIL, a railroad company providing an effective means for transportation as well as playing the pivotal role in the economic development of the nation, will be able to provide more reliable service to its customers while ensuring the safety of the passengers.” said President Baek of KOSHA.



KOSHA Provides Mobile Training Bus to Mongolia

In accordance with the MOU between KOSHA and MSWL

October 20, 2011

A bus for mobile training has been provided to Mongolia to help the country carry out practical activities related to the prevention of accidents at work.

Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency(KOSHA ; President : Baek, Hun-Ki) signed an MOU with the Mongolian Ministry of Social Welfare and Labor in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The MOU is about the provision and use of mobile training bus from KOSHA to MSWL.

Since KOSHA and MSWL signed a technical arrangement in 2003, the arrangement between the two organizations was renewed two more times to continue fellowship training programs for the Mongolian OSH specialists and on-site consultation programs.

In 2008, some of the specialists from KOSHA helped to establish the OSH law in Mongolia by providing advices, thereby playing a key role in the beginning process of Mongolia's OSH system.

The MOU was signed in relation to the provision of mobile training bus from KOSHA to MSWL. Upon the request KOSHA received from MSWL regarding the provision of the training bus, KOSHA has decided to provide the bus, which is no longer in use in KOSHA.

"According to the National Situations Report of Mongolia in 2011, about 56.1% of industrial accidents of the country are occurring in energy, mining, and agriculture industries. In addition, poor OSH training infrastructure is leading to more accidents. The mobile training will help to gain access to small workplaces, which are located over a vast area. I hope the bus will provide realistic help to preventing work related accidents in Mongolia. On the other hand, KOSHA will continue to improve the safety and health capacity of countries around the globe by providing OSH technical assistance and strengthening cooperation," said an official from KOSHA.





Training Institute of KOSHA(OSHTI) Launches English Website

Facilitating exchanges with global counterparts

15th December, 2011

Occupational Safety and Health Training Institute(OSHTI ; Director General : Young-Soo Park) of KOSHA launched its English website on Thursday, December 15, 2011. The website was demonstrated on the occasion of *Development Meeting for Safety and Health Training 2011*, at Hotel President. The needs for a venue of information exchanges and cooperation have risen as OSHTI continues to carry out training and collaborative programs with advanced and developing nations.



<http://edu.kosha.or.kr/en/main>

With the newly developed English website of OSHTI, all the central operations of KOSHA including the KOSHA HQ and OSHRI (Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute) have English websites. With the opening of OSHTI's English website, the Institute will be able to continue and strengthen cooperation with professional training institutes of countries around the world. Also, it will help to establish OSHTI's standing as a professional institute specializing in training and education on OSH.

The key contents of the website comprise of the activities and programs conducted by OSHTI. Also, the facilities and training curriculums it offers will be made available in order to publicize the level of expertise OSHTI to countries around the world.

"I expect to see more active exchanges with international partners through the website, which will be helpful in enhancing OSHTI's international standing," said Director General Park of OSHTI.