

NEWS LETTER

Protecting Worker's Life and Health

01

Western Dae-gu Area Office opened

02

Intensive support for work places less than 50 workers

03

Close and Locally customized assistance

04

Fight against chemical leaks with prevention measures

05

Spring Forest Accidents Prevention Season

06

500,000 caregivers prevent accidents

07

Eradicating Accidents Involving Explosion and Leakage in Chemical Plants

08

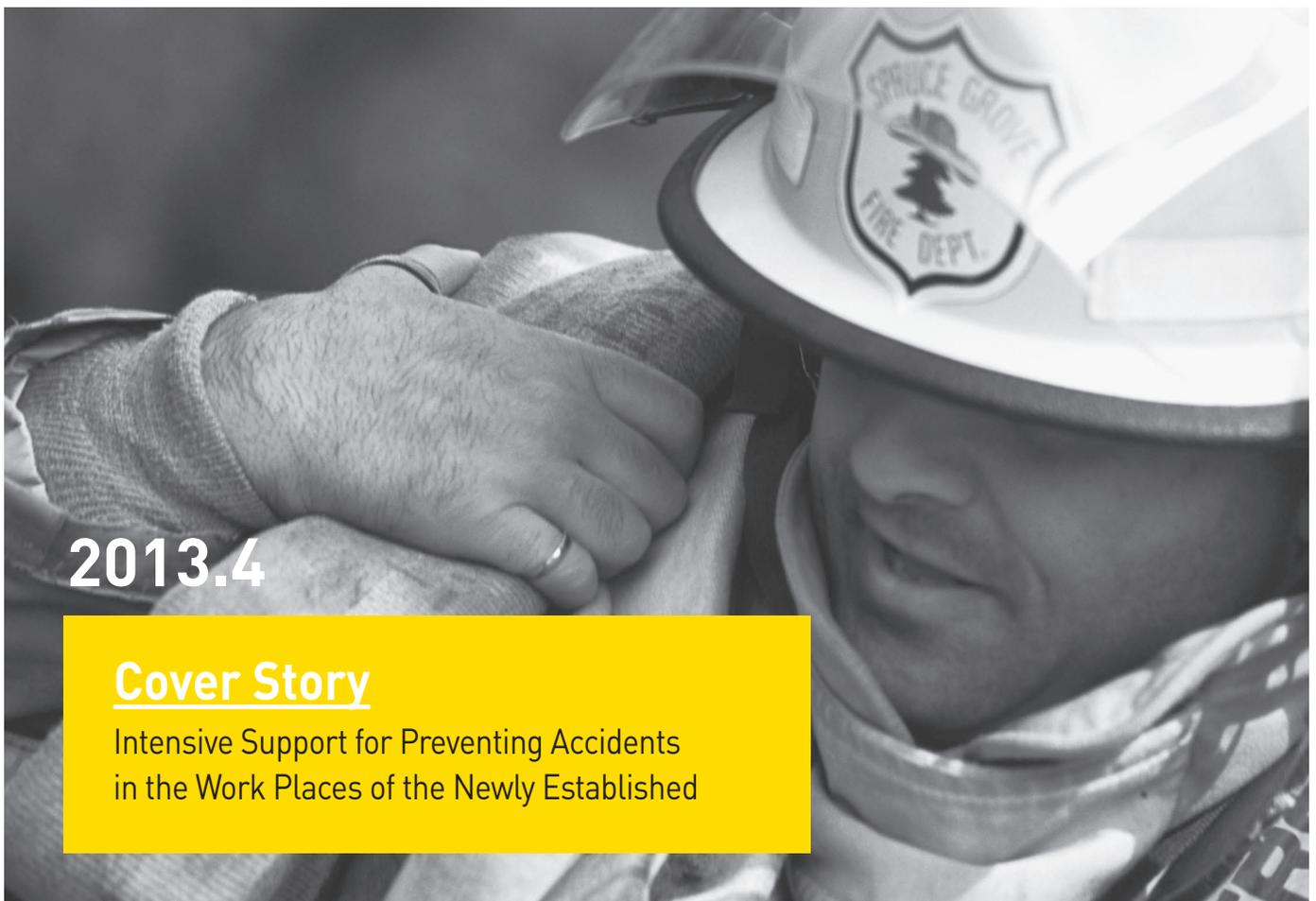
Upright Safety and Health Service

09

Secure Safety in Small Construction Site with Advanced System

10

Selection of Excellent Industrial Safety Product



2013.4

Cover Story

Intensive Support for Preventing Accidents in the Work Places of the Newly Established



Intensive Support for Preventing Accidents in the Work Places of the Newly Established

Risk Assessment Consulting and Provision of Customized Safety and Health Manual for Newly Established Businesses

- KOSHA (President Hun-ki Baek) is intensively supporting newly established businesses that can hardly spare their resources for safety and health through risk assessment consulting, customized safety and health manual, funding, and safety and health training to prevent accidents. Newly established businesses can be easily exposed to a number of industrial accidents as they can hardly spare their financial resources and time on preventing accidents and this KOSHA decided to intensively support them to develop safety and health infrastructure.
- According to the analysis of more or less than 2 year old businesses, companies that are 2 years old or younger showed higher accident rate than companies that are older, and the manufacturer when divided by the type of business and large work places when divided by the size showed higher accident rate.
- Under the circumstances, KOSHA decided to select businesses exhibiting high risks and provide them with the risk assessment consulting on hazard and risk factors and the customized safety and health manual concerning the equipment and facility available in each work place along with safety and health training for workers. Furthermore, KOSHA is providing manufacturers with less than 50 employees and small and medium service industries that need to improve their safety facilities and work environment with maximum 20 million won subsidy and covering 50% of the cost and companies with less than 10 employees without much financial resources, 70% of the cost.
- KOSHA is publishing and distributing the 「Safety and Health Manual for Newly Established Businesses」 containing basic safety and health information that the newly established medium to small companies with less than 50 employees. This booklet can be found in the 'Hot Issue' corner of the KOSHA homepage, and major contents cover how to provide safety and health training to workers, safety and health signs required in each type of work place, protective gears that must be worn for each operation, guidelines on the use of chemical substances, standard for the imposition of penalties for the violation of the Industrial Safety and Health Act, and measures that must be taken when an industrial accident occurs.
- “Young companies, the ones less than 2 years old, have great difficulties in developing an infrastructure for preventing accident,” said a KOSHA official, “KOSHA will make efforts to enhance corporate competitiveness and reduce industrial accidents by fully and intensively supporting these companies this year.” (End)



Western Dae-gu Area Office opened gives on-time technical assistance to 48,000 work places in Dae-gu and western area of Gyeong-buk Province

20th February



Vice minister of the Ministry of Employment and Labor (6th from the left) and President Baek (7th from the left) are taking a picture at the opening ceremony of the office on Feb. 20

KOSHA opened one of area offices in western Dae-gu on Feb. 20 in Dal-seo gu of the city. Now around 48,000 establishments including those in 7 industrial complexes may enjoy in-depth assistance from the office.

Up until now Dae-gu Regional Office covered all work places in the city to prevent accidents. The newly opened office, however, laid a firm ground for in-depth assistance to establishments in western Dae-gu and southern part of Gyeong-buk Province.

The seven areas that this office would cover are: Seogu, Bukgu, Dal-seo gu in Dae-gu and Go-ryung gun, Seong-ju gun, Chil-gok gun and Gun-wi gun in Gyeong-buk Province.

It is expected that some 320,000 working men and women at the 48,000 establishments would receive the in-depth assistance from the KOSHA's area office.

This office in western Dae-gu is the 24th contact point in local areas together with 6 regional offices and 18 area offices, to implement prevention activities.

President Baek said that Western Dae-gu Area Office was opened to give in-depth assistance near workers to prevent accidents, adding that it would be another opportunity to reduce accident cases and make work places more pleasant and safer.



Intensive support for work places less than 50 workers

22th February

KOSHA and 162 prevention organizations, determined to reduce accident cases especially for small-sized work places, encouraging them to settle down risk assessment quickly.

KOSHA signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with 162 prevention organizations to work hard to reduce accident cases in small-sized work places and help them be equipped with risk assessment quickly, on Feb. 22 in the headquarters of the agency.

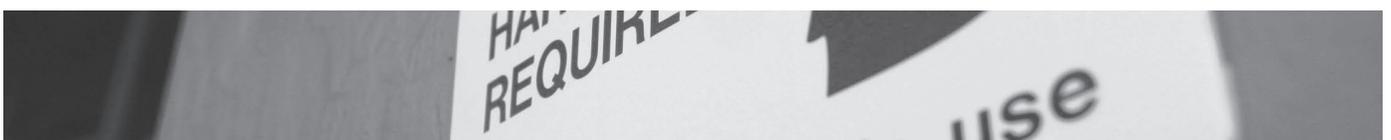
This event was organized to decrease occupational accident cases at small-sized work places with less than 50 workers, which account for 81.4% (75,151 cases) of the whole accident cases reported.

KOSHA designated 220,000 vulnerable work places in terms of safety management and give them intensive assistance, to prevent occupational accidents. In addition, the agency signed a contract with private prevention organizations to help those small-sized work places enhance the situation. At the end of the year, their performance would be evaluated in terms of accident cases reduction and risk assessment involvement.

In that sense, KOSHA adopted the resolution on preventing occupational accidents with representatives from prevention organizations and work places.

Meanwhile, around 400 people participated in the event who were all the more determined to contribute to reducing accidents, among which: KOSHA's president, members from Ministry of Employment and Labor, representatives from work places in particular hazardous machine equipped work places, outsourced organizations of the construction sector, and OSH experts.

Mr. Joon-won Lee, director of the Occupational Safety Department said "This event served as an opportunity to confirm the determination of prevention organizations to achieve the goal." adding that he hopes that the injury rates entered 0.5% level in 2014 with the risk assessment system fully implemented this year through which small-sized work places would be trained on raising capability to conduct the system.





Close and Locally customized assistance

KOSHA adds branch office in Mokpo to assist some 170,000 workers in 20,000 work places

26th February



President Hun-ki Baek(4th from the left) and other participants are taking a picture at the opening ceremony.

KOSHA opened Mokpo branch office on Feb. 26, to pursue prevention activities effectively within Jeonnam area.

The office, located in Muan, Jeonnam province, implements prevention activities covering 8 regions in the province: Yeongam, Muan, Jangheung, Gangjin, Haenam, Shinan, Wando and Jindo.

The rural province has 12 industrial complexes where large scaled government construction project is ongoing. Around 179,000 workers are working there in some 22,890 work places, recording 1.1 higher injury rates than national average of 0.65%.

There, small sized work places account for 90% of the whole establishments.

In that sense, the newly opened Mokpo branch office would assist especially small sized work places with prevention fund, technical training and education, which are usually lack of room to prevent accidents.

President Hun-ki Baek of KOSHA and head of the regional prevention organizations celebrated the opening in Feb. 26, held together with 'Making a safe work place' convention and signboard hanging ceremony.

The Mokpo branch office that follows the opening of Daegu branch office on Feb, 20, is the result of KOSHA's movement to provide close and regionally specified assistance.

President Hun-ki Baek said "Opening of the Mokpo branch office would serve as an opportunity to extend the infrastructure of OSH assistance in Jeonnam western area.", expressing his expectations towards reduced injury cases and enhanced safety level.



Fight against chemical leaks with prevention measures

KOSHA identify working environment of weapons and chemical products manufacturing plants

14th March

President Hun-ki Baek visited a work place that deals with chemical materials, located in Ul-san, on March 14, in an effort to come up with prevention measures against chemical-related accidents.

He checked safety and health conditions of facilities and processes that cover hazardous materials in the plant in Nam-gu, Ul-san, together with people concerned. After looking around the plant, he had a meeting to discuss prevention measures for workers that deal with chemical substance.

He said “Recent series of accidents show that chemical leaks affect residents in the area as well as workers”, encouraging workers and employers to stick to process safety management and prevention principles.



President Baek(in the middle) is checking safety in the weapons and chemical products manufacturing plant he visited





Spring Forest Accidents Prevention Season

19th March

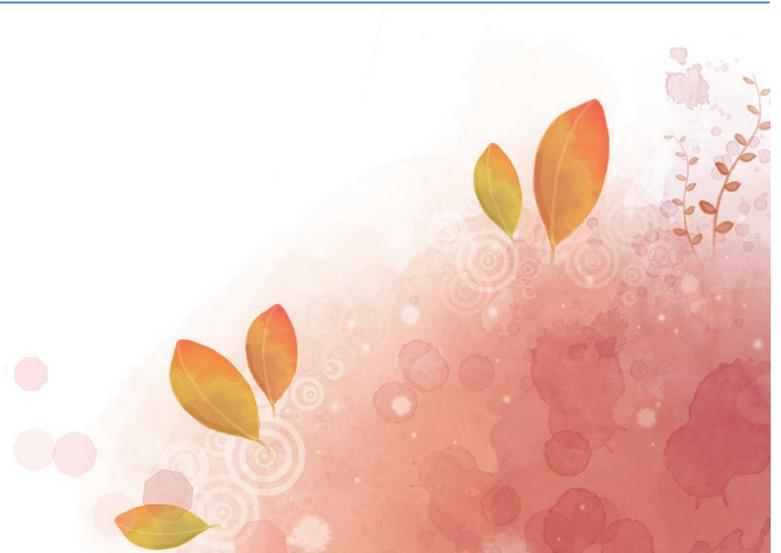
President Hun-ki Baek visited and looked around work sites operated in the forest together with people concerned, in Hwoeng-seong, Gang-won province on 19, March.

This visit was part of his efforts to prevent accidents in Gnag-won area where many people are involved in the forestry business, focusing on injuries from logging which is one of increasing jobs in spring, falling accidents due to mountain's rough terrain, and usage of machine saw.

The president also joined the meeting for preventing forestry injuries in Gangwon, prior to his site visit and said "Intensive prevention activities are needed in the forestry work sites in Gang-won area considering its topography", encouraging employers to put more emphasis on safety training for aged workers, and employees on site to stick to safety guidelines based on safety management plan.



President Baek explains safety rules for machine saw during his visit to site in the forest, Hweong-seong, Gang-won province on 19, March.





500,000 caregivers prevent accidents

KOSHA sign agreement with 2 associations consist of caregivers on implementing risk assessment and disseminating OSH notebook

20th March

KOSHA moves forward to help prevent injuries and illnesses of caregivers who take care of the elderly at home or at nursing homes.

President Hun-ki Baek of KOSHA signed MOU with Korea Care Association and Korea Care Workers' Association on preventing occupational injuries and illnesses of caregivers, in El Tower's meeting room located in Yang-jae, Seoul on 20 March.

Caregivers have higher possibility to be diagnosed with Musculoskeletal disorders(MSDS) as they could fall or hit by something while working for the elderly with limited physical activity or any movement.



President Baek is taking a photo (4th from the left in the first row)

In that sense, KOSHA revealed a plan to provide prevention activities for the 500,000 care givers enrolled in the two associations, throughout the agreement.

The agreement includes: technical assistance and risk assessment for nursing homes; financial assistance for facilities improvement in nursing homes; creating and disseminating OSH pocket notebooks; providing the workers with OSH training; supporting of prevention activities of MSDS.

President Baek said that the role of caregivers are all the more important as the country's population gets older, adding that this MOU would serve as a starting point to help make an environment where caregivers work in a safe and pleasant work place.



Eradicating Accidents Involving Explosion and Leakage in Chemical Plants

KOSHA, Discussed Countermeasures with Representatives of Oil Companies and Petrochemical Companies in Yeosu

26th March



President Hun-ki Baek of KOSHA (in the middle) is showing the resolution signed by the safety and health representatives of 28 chemical plants in Yeosu.

Recently, accidents involving explosion and leakage in chemical plants took place one after another, and President Hun-ki Baek of KOSHA met safety and health representatives of 28 chemical plants and representatives of Korea Petrochemical Industry Association in Yeosu on Tuesday March 26 and discussed countermeasures.

The meeting was held at The Ocean Hotel located on Soho-ro, Yeosu, as a part of a larger meeting of the 'Chemical Industry Safety and Health Leaders Group' composed of the representatives of major oil companies and petrochemical companies.

The meeting mainly dealt with the ways to prevent accidents following the presentation of the cases of serious accidents that took place, and

all participants of the meeting signed the resolution for the eradication of severe industrial accidents.

President Baek emphasized, "We need powerful leadership of CEOs on safety and health in order to prevent accidents in chemical plants and work places handling dangerous articles," and asked "the 'Chemical Industry Safety and Health Leaders Group' composed of the representatives of related industries to make utmost efforts to prevent accidents" (End)



Upright Safety and Health Service

President Hun-ki Baek of KOSHA, Emphasized Transparent Management at the 'CEO Commitment to Ethical Management Ceremony'

28th March



- President Hun-ki Baek of KOSHA reaffirmed the commitment to clean management with the representatives of 70 or more agencies and companies at the 'CEO Commitment to Ethical Management Ceremony' held by the Institute for Industrial Policy Studies at the Press Center in Taepyeong-ro, Seoul on Thursday March 28.
- KOSHA has been intensifying the ethical management through the external monitoring system, the 'Clean Ombudsman' system and employee's 'Clean Milage' system, as proven by various records such as being selected as the excellent agency for 4 consecutive years in the integrity assessment and also the excellent agency for 3 consecutive years for competitive strength for anti-corruption by Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission.
- At the ceremony, President Baek said, "We will become the occupational hazard prevention agency winning more trust from the nation through transparent management and the effort to operate rationally." (End)

President Hun-ki Baek of KOSHA (3rd from the right in the 2nd row) reaffirming the commitment to ethical management with the participants of the CEO Commitment Ceremony at Ethical Management SM forum



Secure Safety in Small Construction Site with Advanced System

KOSHA, Provides Cost of Installing Walk Plates and Safety Handrails

29th March

KOSHA went out to the field to support safety facilities in small construction sites by reflecting the voices of workers and discussing remedial measures.

On Friday March 29, President Hun-ki Baek of KOSHA visited a construction site for a multi-household house in Gimpo-si, Gyeonggi-do and inspected the current application of the 'System Scaffold' for which KOSHA supports the cost of installation with field workers and safety and health representatives and sought for efficient support measures.

KOSHA is supporting the cost of installing the 'System Scaffold' with the walk plate and the safety handrail up to 10 million won through a screening for small constructions worth less than 1 billion won requesting for the installation in order to prevent accidents that involve falling.

President Baek said, "We need the interest of the construction managers and the owner in order to spread the application of 'System Scaffold' and we would like to ask for more interest and cooperation to make safer work place." (End).



President Hun-ki Baek (at the very left) is discussing work safety with a worker at a construction site.



Selection of Excellent Industrial Safety Product

Permanent Exhibition of Excellent Products of Protective Gear, Safety Device, and Explosion Proof Electric Equipment Manufacturers and Additional Point to 'Test Equipment Purchase Fund' Applicants

15th April

- Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute of KOSHA (President Hun-ki Baek) is holding the 「Quality Award Show」 to select excellent safety products among protective gears such as the safety helmet used in industrial settings, safety device of mechanical equipment, and explosion proof electric equipment.
- The categories eligible for application are the protection apparatuses, protective gears, and explosion proof electric equipment that acquired the safety certificate from KOSHA in accordance with Industrial Safety and Health Act or the performance verification certificate. Products that acquired such certificates before the deadline for application are also eligible.
 - Products that had won the prize in the past or companies whose safety certification or performance verification was cancelled through the special inspection conducted by the Ministry of Employment and Labor last year or related products are not eligible for application.
- Manufacturers that wish to participate can submit the product with application form to KOSHA until Friday, May 10, 2013 by referring to the homepage of the KOSHA.
- KOSHA holds the Quality Award Show to promote the production and circulation of safer products in the industrial settings, and this is the 17th year of the event.
- KOSHA selects products by reviewing special features and the excellence of product performance in terms of the product's shape and appearance, the progressiveness of structure and function, and user convenience through a review committee composed of experts inside and outside KOSHA.
- Total 8 products will receive cash prize and plaque including 2 million cash prize and the plaque (Employment and Labor Minister's Award) for 1 grand prize winner, 1.5 million won cash prize and the plaque (KOSHA Director's Award, the same hereunder) for 1 Innovative Accident Prevention prize winner, 1 million won cash prize and plaque for 3 Excellence Prize winners, and 500,000 won cash prize and plaque for 3 runner-up prize winners.

- The result of selection will be announced through the homepage of KOSHA (<http://www.kosha.or.kr>) in June.

- The selected products will be exhibited during the Korea International Safety & Health Show which will be held in COEX in the first week of July, and KOSHA will give wide publicity to the excellence of the products through the exhibition in the permanent exhibition hall inside the head office, publication of brochures, and online advertisement.

- Also, additional points will be given to the applicants of 'Test Equipment Purchase Fund', maximum 10 million won subsidy provided by KOSHA.

- Last year, 25 manufacturers exhibited 31 products, and the 'Air Supplied Respirator' which secured the clear view for the worker in the enclosure won the grand prize and the 'Prefabricated Safety Handrail' which added the fall accident preventing feature won the Innovative Accident Prevention prize.
- A KOSHA representative said, "This event was held to motivate manufacturers to produce high quality products by comprehensively evaluating the performance and quality of protective device, protective gear, and explosion proof electric device and selecting excellent products and also to prevent industrial accidents." (End)

