

Newsletter

Protecting Worker's Life and Health

No. **70**
Aug. 2014



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Korea International Safety & Health Show 2014

Korea International Safety & Health Show was held from July 7 to 10 at COEX

200 companies participated, more than 10,000 exhibits including state-of-the-art products from abroad
Part of the 47th Week of Safety and Health.

July 7, 2014

"Korea International Safety & Health Show" (KISS 2014) was held for 4 days from July 7 to 10 at COEX in Seoul as part of the 47th Week of Safety and Health. In KISS 2014, about 200 companies presented more than 10,000 products. Participants and visitors had opportunities to compare and evaluate state-of-the-art OSH equipment and products, take a look at safe household items, and have check-ups.



Bang Ha-nam, Minister of Employment and Labor (8th from the right), Baek Hun-ki, President of KOSHA (9th from the right) and all concerned are joining the ribbon cutting ceremony of KISS 2014 on Monday, July 7.

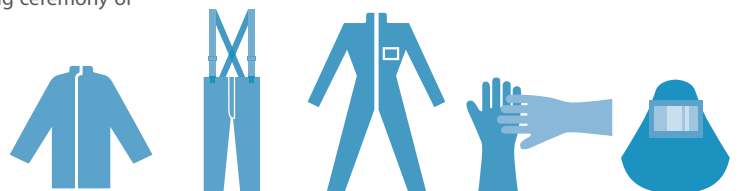
Various innovative items attracted people's attention for example safety shoes equipped with non-slip function on an oily and inclined floor; special gloves protecting hands from sharp materials such as a knife or a splinter of glass; and heavy load material handling equipment.

Visitors had check-ups including measuring the level of stress, blood pressure, and body fat. In line with this, they also learn how to handle an emergency and do cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) at firsthand.

Participants met a special paint changing its color in case of chemical leaks; learned how to wear safety masks properly; and operated a press machine automatically shut off when hands are close to the machine.

The 47 Week of Safety and Health kicked off with an 'opening ceremony' on Monday, July 7 including 'KISS 2014', 'Safety and Health Seminars' which drew on 29 topics covering OSH issues, and 'Best Practices Presentations' by 90 enterprises with outstanding performance in safety and health activities.

An occupational safety-themed play was provided for free and UCC (User Created Contents) works made by the public were screened through the 'Safety and Health UCC Show'.



Suggesting safety solutions for Korea

Examining causes of recent major accidents and discussing preventive measures in 'Safety Debate Forum' in COEX, attended by professors and experts in business.

July 8, 2014

A panel discussion was held, which was meaningful to examine causes and problems and provide measures against safety accidents such as the sinking of 'Sewol' ferry and successive major occupational accidents. KOSHA held a 'Panel discussion' under the theme of 'measures to build systems for major accident prevention' marking the 47th Week of Safety and Health in COEX Conference room, Samsung-dong, Seoul, in Tuesday, July 8, 2014.

This forum was attended by prestigious scholars from domestic academia and business, in which in-depth discussion was carried out on agendas: safety level of Korea, challenges of safety system in Korea, and reform of government organization in terms of safety.


Themed presentations were made by three speakers: Professor Park Du-young, Department of Mechanical Systems Engineering, Hansung University;

Ha Haeng-bong, Director of GS Engineering & Construction (E&C); and Gwon Hyeok-myeon, Head of Ulsan Area Office, KOSHA. There was also participation of five panels: Professor Moon Il, department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Yonsei University; Park In, Director of LG Chem; Shin Un-cheol, director, OSHRI, KOSHA; Professor Lee Myeong-gu, department of Environmental Health and Safety, Eulji University; and Lee Jeong-seok, President of Korea Temporary Equipment Safety Research Institute.

In the presentations, Prof. Park Du-young from Hansung University mentioned recent safety problems in Korean society such as outdated industrial facilities, the government's deregulation, and rise of vulnerable groups to safety including temporary workers. In terms of safety measures, he said punishing economic players should be strengthened and expressed opinions on reform of safety organization in the government.

Gwon Hyeok-myeon, head of the Ulsan Area Office presented 'preventive measures for chemical accidents' centered on cases of accidents in chemical plants. Ha Haeng-bong, director of GS E&C made a presentation on 'problems of safety and health by player: the government, ordering organization, partner companies and workers.

The themed presentations were made by eight-minute speech of the each five panels and a mutual debate between the speakers and panels.

The four-hour-long panel discussion closed after having Q&A session with audience. 



Be more careful in construction sites in summer

KOSHA distributes 'Safety and Health Manual for Rainy season & Storm and Flood Damage' providing preventive measures by risk factor and a facility check list, etc.

July 2, 2014

KOSHA provides 'Safety and Health Guideline for rainy season and summer' and 'Safety and Health Manual for Storm and Flood Damage', which include measures to prevent collapse and electric shock caused by typhoons or heavy rain in summer. The purpose of guideline is to prevent major accidents in construction sites caused by typhoons and torrential rain which accompany storm and heavy rain in summer. Last year's statistics for occupational accidents show that the number of victims is 6,538 in construction sites from June to August. Among them, the number of fatalities is 128.

According to the statistics for the past three years, the number of victims and fatalities is on the rise in construction sites from June to August.

The guideline includes safety measures against risk factors in construction sites including collapse by torrential rain; electric shock by flooding; suffocation in confined space; lightning; and collapse of tower crane.

In addition, it suggests measures that encourage workers not to work outside from 1 to 3 p.m. under sweltering heat and to drink enough water.

'Safety and Health Manual for Storm and Flood Damage' provides emergency plans organization and duties, a facility check list, emergency contact network table, emergency duty schedule and duty log, business report and other document, which will be utilized appropriately in each workplace.



The cover of 'Safety and Health Manual for Storm and Flood Damage'

Cases of accidents in construction sites in summer

#1. Seven workers were drowned in a construction site for duplexing water pipes of Seoul Olympic Express way, where water of the Han river flowed into a tunnel due to torrential rain, in which the dead people were working on July 15, 2013.

#2. One fatality occurred and one worker fractured a rib as workers were buried under a landslide and piles of concrete by collapse of cutting surface while burying LNG pipelines in Uljin-gun, Gyeongsangbuk-do on July 16, 2013.

Safety and Health
Manual for Storm
and Flood Damage



Easy to obtain international safety and health management system

KOSHA signed MOUs with 5 registrar agencies
Save time and cost by obtaining domestic
and international certification at one time.

June 27, 2014

Safety and health management system will help domestic enterprises to export their products in an easier manner. KOSHA signed MOUs with 5 Korean registrar agencies of international certification for mutual accreditation.

In accordance with the MOU, there is no need for an enterprise to acquire extra international accreditation for export once it got a safety and health management system which is certified by KOSHA and the institutions.

In Korea, KOSHA is providing "KOSHA 18001", a safety and health management system. Thirteen (13) multinational certification institutions including UK, Germany, and France are operating "OSHAS 18001", an international accreditation for safety and health management.

- KOSHA 18001: Korea Occupational Safety & Health Agency 18001
- OHSAS 18001: Occupational Health & Safety Assessment Series 18001

With a safety and health management system, enterprises can manage measures for preventing occupational accidents systemically. Certification institutions such as KOSHA grant certification to applying enterprises if they meet the evaluation standard. The five institutions are Korea Management Association Registration Inc. (KMAR); CREBIZ QM; SPEC Co., Ltd; CRS Registrars Inc.; and Small & medium Business Corporation Registrar (SBC Registrar), who execute international accreditation work for domestic enterprises.

The MOU allows enterprises to acquire domestic and international certification at one time almost halving the time and cost. For instance, an enterprise with less than 50 employees had to pay a total of 4 million KRW as it paid 2 million KRW for domestic and international certifications respectively. Now it only costs 2 million KRW to obtain both domestic and international certifications thanks to the MOU.

In Korea, 1,500 enterprises acquired the certification of safety and health management system up to the present accounting 25.6% of whole enterprises showing the reduction of occupational accident rate and workers' compensation insurance premium as well as the enhancement of trade union relations.

President Baek, Hun-ki of KOSHA mentioned, "Safety and health management system is prerequisite for the reduction of loss by avoidable accidents and for the creation of advanced workplace. He also added, "I expect enterprises to adopt the system actively and vigorously."

Case

Company A, a wind turbine manufacturer in Pohang-si, spent \$3,500 USD and 6 months to obtain KOSHA 18001. In October 2010, however, the A company spent additional \$8,000 USD and 3 months to get OSHAS 18001, an international safety and health management system for export to Americas.




Small promise to make safe Korea

President Baek, Hun-ki of KOSHA, chair Han, Gwang-ok of Presidential Committee for National Cohesion, and citizen representatives including student and housewife are taking pledge of their safety activity.

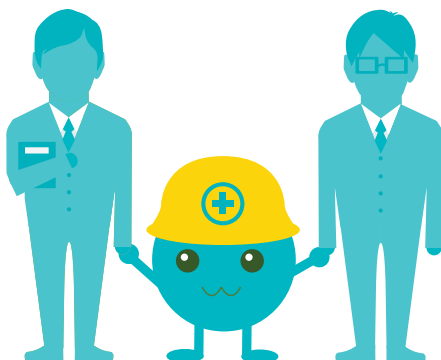
July 10, 2014

Chair Han Gwang-ok of Presidential Committee for National Cohesion, which is promoting a national campaign under the name of 'Small practice in daily life, my promise' and president Baek Hun-ki of KOSHA, which has hold the 47th Week of Safety and Health in the first week of July, prepared an event for national safety.

The event, 'Small practice in daily life, my promise of safety,' was held at the Event Zone on the first floor of COEX on July 10th to promote and unite awareness of the public on safety with related to the major accidents including the tragedy of Sewel ferry. In the event, a ceremony which collected small notes of people's promise of safety spoke for Korea. 



President Baek, Hun-ki of KOSHA (fourth from the left), chair Han, Gwang-ok of Presidential Committee for National Cohesion (third from the left), and citizen representatives including student and housewife are taking pledge of their safety activity.



MOU between public organizations in the innovative-city zone in Ulsan

KOSHA-EWP, mutual cooperation for occupational accident prevention
Endeavor to build Safety and Health Management System for partners

July 15, 2014

Mutual cooperation between Early Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA) and Korea East-West Power Co., Lt (EWP) located in the innovative-city zone in Ulsan will be made.


The two public organizations have successfully relocated their headquarters to the innovative-city zone in Ulsan early this year. They signed an MOU to magnify synergy significantly between organizations in the zone.

Both organizations will concentrate effort to enhance the level of safety of EWP under the MOU. In particular, they will place focus on the establishment of Safety and Health Management System for the safety of not only EWP but also its partners.

To this end, KOSHA will provide technical assistance and educational training to lay the foundation for the system as well as EWP will support its partners' active participation.

In addition, to raise the safety awareness of EWP staff members and its partners, KOSHA is planned to support EWP with safety education by making full use of KOSHA's facilities such as Safety Experience Education Center and Asbestos Information Center.

KOSHA and EWP will cooperate for joint inspections, investigation of accident cause, and health promotion activities to improve workers' health.

Korea East-West Power Co., Lt (EWP) is a public enterprise running five power plants including Ulsan Oil-Fired & C.C Power Complex, Honam Coal-Fired Power Plant, Donghae Coal-Fired Power Plant, Ilsan Combined Heat & Power Plant with Dangjin Coal-Fired Power Complex as the center. EWP has about 600 partner companies and has successfully relocated its headquarters from Seoul to Ulsan this June. 



Baek, Hun-ki, President of KOSHA (7th from the left) and Jang, Ju-ok, President of EWP (6th from the left) and all concerned are posing for a commemorative photograph of the MOU

Overview of Ceremony

Date :

11:00-13:00, Tuesday, July 15, 2015

Venue :

Meeting room in EWP

Participants :

Baek, Hun-ki, President of KOSHA,
Jang, Ju-ok, President of EWP, etc.



Strengthening safety in national industrial complexes

KOSHA signed an MOU for occupational accident prevention in industrial complexes with Korea Industrial Complex Corp. (KICOX), to support establishment of Safety Support Center and Workers' Health Center

June 24, 2014


Mutual efforts will be made to enhance safety in 51 national industrial complexes across the country. KOSHA and KICOX signed an MOU for occupational accident prevention in industrial complexes.

KICOX is supporting some 45,000 companies in 51 industrial complexes nationwide. Tenant companies in the complexes are mainly small and medium-sized businesses, which are in economically and geographically poor condition to be given professional and systematic safety and health services. In this regard, KOSHA and KICOX signed an MOU to carry out occupational accident prevention activities for improved safety of industrial complexes and health care for workers in tenant companies.

The purpose of MOU is active cooperation between KOSHA and KICOX for establishment and management of 'Safety Support Center' and 'Workers' Health Center'.

'Safety Support Center' provides tenant companies with safety education, information on safety and health, and counseling for work environment improvement. 'Workers' Health Center' gives free health care services to employees of small-sized workplaces.

KOSHA has established 'Workers' Health Center' in 15 major cities across the country so far, planning to continuously expand the centers in national industrial complexes through the MOU.

In addition, KOSHA and KICOX will cooperate on tailored education program development, joint safety inspection for facilities of tenant companies and technical advice for safety committee in industrial complexes, in order to enhance safety for tenant companies. 



President Baek Hun-ki of KOSHA(left) in the MOU ceremony

Overview of the MOU

Date :

11:00, Tuesday, June 24, 2014

Venue :

Conference room, KOSHA

Participants :

Baek Hun-ki, President of KOSHA and
Kang Nam-hun, President of KICOX

