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# Distribution of handbook on serious industrial accidents under the Serious Accident Punishment Act



It contains meaning of Executive Officer, examples of Safety/Health-Related Statutes, and specific implementation measures for 9 obligations concerning construction of safety and health management system

The Ministry of Employment and Labor (MOEL; Minister: KyungDuk An) on November 17th distributed the handbook on the section of serious industrial accidents from the "Serious Accident Punishment Act\*."

- \* Tentatively titled
- The handbook aims to help the business enterprises better understanding the serious industrial accidents from the Serious Accident Punishment Act scheduled to be enacted on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and to support the construction of safety and health management systems as it contains the details concerning the matters and issues the most enquired of by business entities or institutions.
- First of all, it included the explications regarding regulatory definitions of the terms, such as "serious industrial accidents," "persons in employment" and "executive officers." Most of all, it clearly stated the meaning of executive officers, the term keenly interested in by business enterprises.
- Next, it presented specific details concerning implementation measures in detail for the "obligations to secure safety and health" imposed upon executive officers.
  - From the obligations to secure safety and health, it offered specific details regarding 9 different obligations in relation to construction of and implementation measures for the safety and health management system, including followings:
    - ▲ establishment of goals for safety/health
    - ▲ installation of dedicated organization
    - ▲ confirmation and improvement of harmful/hazardous factors
    - ▲ listening to inputs from workers



News

#### Distribution of handbook on serious industrial accidents under the Serious Accident Punishment Act

- It is important more than anything else to 'verify harmful/hazardous factors' prone to incur serious industrial accidents based on the accident history of the businesses or workplaces, collection of inputs from on-site workers, cases of accidents within similar business types and diagnosis by experts.
  - Furthermore, it stressed the fact that implementation of 9 obligations regarding construction of safety and health management system needs to be organically interlinked based on the harmful/hazardous factors carefully identified through development of the procedures designed to remove and control identified harmful/hazardous factors, deployment of appropriate organizations, workforce and budgets capable of supporting the firm implementation at the worksites and procurement of monitoring systems.
- Moreover, it also presented the examples concerning safety/health-related statutes\*, the most enquired in relation to managerial measures with respect to implementation of safety/health-related statutes at workplaces.
  - \* Occupational Safety and Health Act, Mining Safety Act, Nuclear Safety Act, Aviation Safety Act, Ship Safety Act, Act on The Establishment of Safe Laboratory Environment, Wastes Control Act, Living Logistics Service Industry Development Act, Seafarers' Act, etc.
- In addition, the handbook tried to minimize any potential difficulties in interpretation of legal terms at workplaces by offering detailed explanation of the Serious Accident Punishment Act and its Enforcement Decrees.
  - At the same time, it also contained the data for reference purposes with regard to the causes of occurrences, symptoms and preventive measures for 24 types of occupational diseases in relation to occupational disease caused by identical harmful factors (Appendix 1 in the Enforcement Decree of the Occupational Safety and Health Act).
- Together with distribution of the handbook, the MOEL plans to continue assisting the business enterprises to build the safety and health management system by hosting briefing sessions for business entities at regional employment and labor offices.
- Giseop Gwon, Director of Occupational Safety and Health Office, made a point by saying, "With no serious accidents, there will be no punishment under the Serious Accident Punishment Act," and added, "I do hope this handbook to help preparing for construction of safety and health management system and also fundamentally preventing serious accidents."



#### First public institution to simultaneously acquire international standards on anti-bribery management system and compliance management system

Efforts made for analysis on 450 risks causing corruptions and risk management

- The KOSHA concurrently acquired the 'Anti-Bribery Management System (ISO 37001)' and 'Compliance Management System (ISO 37301)' from the Korea Management Register (KMR; CEO: Eunju Hwang).
  - This marks the first ever achievement by the public institution to acquire both systems of 'ISO 37001' and 'ISO 37301' at the same time.
    - It signifies that fact that the KOSHA was recognized as an institution fully capable of maintaining and managing its management systems and organizational culture to comply with anti-corruption measures and legal obligations at the highest international level.
- These two certifications fulfill the international standards recognized by the International Standard Organization (ISO), designed to evaluate whether the anti-corruption, compliance-related organization structure, resource management, risk prevention and performance assessment are systemically built.
  - The KOSHA declared its policies on anti-corruption and compliance management and has organized its management system through company-wide risk analysis and improvement, acquisition of management technique and training programs by forming a TFT.
    - Especially, the KOSHA identified 256 corruption-related risks and 245 compliance risks by analyzing 459 duties prone for causing corruptions or violating given obligations during industrial accident prevention projects and new employee recruitments, and also has developed improvement measures for 140 risks deemed at the high risk level.
    - Moreover, it has built a system capable of autonomously identifying the risks for corruptions and compliance and improving any shortfalls throughout the KOSHA's process by developing in-house inspectors through professional training programs.
- The latest certifications were conducted by the KMR based on document screenings and on-site examinations.
  - For the anti-bribery management system (ISO 37001), the KMR evaluated the matters related to prevention of corruptions, bribery and improper solicitation; and for the compliance management system (ISO 37301), the KMR examined the matters in relation to organizational obligations for compliance, including regulations, norms and code of ethics.
- "It is very much meaning for the KOSHA to receive the certifications concerning anticorruption and compliance management at the time where the social responsibilities are deemed important as ever for public institutions," Doo-Yong Park, the President of KOSHA, said. "We will make sure everyone at the KOSHA to give best

efforts to executing industrial accident prevention projects that can be trusted by the general public," Park stressed.





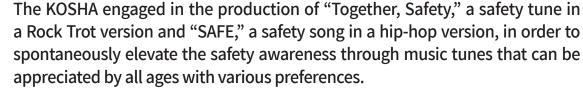
News

### **KOSHA** produces 2 types of safety tunes

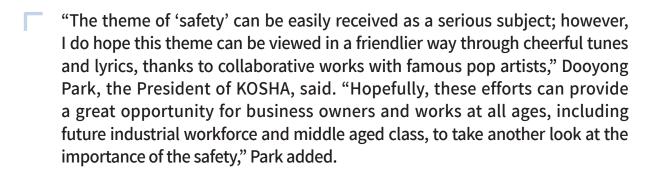
In collaboration with Jiyun Hong, a trot signer, and Napkins, a music creator



The KOSHA produced two types of safety songs in versions of Trot and Hiphop through collaboration with renowned pop artists based on the theme of occupational safety.



- "Together, Safety" is featured by Jiyun Hong, a singer who won the run-up prize from the 'Miss Trot 2,' and delivers a message, "Industrial accidents can be prevented when business owners and workers work together."
- "SAFE," a hip-hop song, was joined by Napkins, a music creator and the first Korean who recorded over 1 billion views at 'TicTok,' a widely popular social media network among the young generations.
  - Most of all, this tune promotes interests and awareness for the safety as it generated rhythms and harmony through the sounds coming from equipments and facilities actually used at the construction sites and manufacturing businesses.
- Two types of music videos on these safety songs can be viewed via the official Youtube channel of the KOSHA.





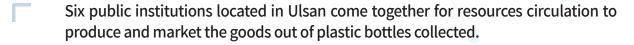




News

### "Resurrection of the fallen": Public institutions in Ulsan work together to recycle plastic bottles

KOSHA and 5 other public institutions signed business agreement on "Joint Implementation of ESG Management through Resource Circulation of Plastic Bottles"



Six institutions, including the KOSHA, Ulsan Port Authority, Korea Workers' Compensation and Welfare Service, Human Resources Development Service of Korea, Korea Energy Agency and University of Ulsan, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on "Joint Implementation of ESG Management through Resource Circulation of Plastic Bottles in Ulsan" on December 7<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday.

This MOU represents an occasion where 6 institutions came together after jointly pushing forward a project on resources circulation since last August in order to address plastic-related environmental issues arising in Ulsan.

- Each organization is to cooperate with each other for the purpose of up-cycling\* where plastic bottles voluntarily sorted and discharged are converted into raw materials to produce and market the products, such as work clothes, dolls and blankets.
  - \* Up-cycling: A process to give rebirth to recyclable items as higher-valued products through addition of designs and usefulness

Especially, this MOU is quite meaningful as it was executed during the week of the First Week of Carbon Neutrality (from the 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> of December) to accommodate the government policy of '2050 carbon neutrality implementation strategy.'

— Through resources circulation, it is expected not only to protect the environment but also to create new jobs under the green new deal by helping the further growth of social business enterprises manufacturing and distributing up-cycling products.

Byungchoon Song, Vice President of the KOSHA, said, "With the latest effort to jointly practice the ESG, we as a leading public institution are determined to

address the climate crisis and promote the significance of social realization of carbon neutrality."

Byungchoon Song, Management Director of the KOSHA (the fourth from the left), signed an MOU on Joint Implementation of ESG Management through Resource Circulation of Plastic Bottles in Ulsan" at the Ulsan Port Authority on the 7<sup>th</sup> December.





# Development/distribution of new technology to prevent fall accidents at construction sites

OSHRI develops 'Advanced Safety Guardrail for System Scaffolding' and transfers the technology to SMEs



- **#1.** September, 2021: One worker disassembling the steel pipe scaffolding at the remodeling construction site was killed by a fall accident;
- **#2.** August, 2021: One worker disassembling the system scaffolding at the new commercial construction site was killed by a fall accident;
  - The Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute (OSHRI; Director General: Eun-A Kim) of the KOSHA developed the "Horizontal Advanced Safety Guardrail Coupled with Auxiliary Vertical Members (the "Advanced Safety Guardrail" hereinafter)" dedicated to system scaffolding allowing the installation of safety guardrail first in order to address problems during installation and removal of scaffoldings at construction sites.
  - With conventional scaffoldings\* currently used at construction sites, the work plates are installed first and followed by installation of safety guardrails during its installation, and the safety guardrails are disassembled first during its removal, which leads to frequent fall accidents from the short end of work plates.
    - \* Scaffolding is a temporary structure assembled and installed adjacent to construction structures, such as buildings, and used as pathways or work plates for construction works.
  - In fact, based on the analysis of serious accidents occurred in the construction industry between 2016 and 2018 (for 3 years), a total of 99 fatalities were recorded from fall accidents off the system scaffolding.
  - For major causes, the 'inadequate installation of safety guardrail' accounted for 69.8% (69 deaths), and analysis on the types of works showed that 'installation/ removal works of scaffolding' was responsible for 27.3% (27 deaths).



### Development/distribution of new technology to prevent fall accidents at construction sites

The Advanced Safety Guardrail ensures safe operations with safety guardrail installed even during installation/removal of scaffoldings as it applies the technology capable of installing safety guardrails at the short end of upper work plates from the lower work plates in advance.

The OSHRI developed this technology and applied for patent (October, 2020), and also completed the transfer of the technology to small-and-medium enterprises in Korea.

- In the first half of this year, it was found adequate to the performance standards based on the simulator experiment conducted in accordance with the test methods on assembly-type safety guardrails under the 'public announcement of safety certification for protective device\*.'
  - \* Public Announcement No. 2021-22 of the Ministry of Employment and Labor
- Based on the above, the Advanced Safety Guardrail of the recipient company
  of the transferred technology from the KOSHA recently acquired the safety
  certification (assembly-type safety guardrail) and is about to be introduced to the
  market.
- "I will make sure the Advanced Safety Guardrail of the system scaffolding to be distributed throughout industrial sites in order to fundamentally prevent fatal fall accidents during scaffolding works," Eun-A Kim, the Director General of the OSHRI under the KOSHA, said. "The OSHRI will continue engaging in commercialization studies required to prevent fatal accidents at industrial sites in the future," Kim added.



Step 1
Install auxiliary vertical members
(#1) to vertical members of
system scaffoldings



Step 2
Couple horizontal advanced safety guardrail with the auxiliary vertical member (#1)



Step 3
Couple auxiliary vertical
members (#2) with the horizontal
advanced safety guardrail and
install to the scaffoldings

## Beware of proper wearing of "Safety Helmet and Safety Harness"

Distribution of guideline (OPL) on use of safety helmet/safety harness



- Recently, a number of incidents have occurred, threatening the safety of workers because the workers put on safety gears unsuitable to their duties or physical conditions or they use uncertified safety gears.
- Consequently, the Occupational Safety and Health Certification Institute (OSHCI; Director General: Youngtae Kim) of the KOSHA produces and distributes the second edition of the OPL series, "Guideline on How to Safely Put on Protective Gear," for the purpose of recommending the safe and proper use of protective gears and preventing the use of uncertified products.
- The latest production focuses on the theme of 'Safety Helmet' and 'Safety Harness,' following the previous one in last September, "Welding Mask."
- Its contents include how to verify the safety certification mark, how to use and necessary cautions that all users must be aware of when purchasing and using the products, and they are summarized in a single page (OPL: One Page Lesson).



**OSHCI** 

#### Beware of proper wearing of "Safety Helmet and Safety Harness"

- Upon purchase of protective gears, it also instructs users to select the capacity
  and rating suitable to the intended use and to verify the KCs safety certification\*
  guaranteeing safety and protection performances.
  - \* Safety certification system (KCs) for protective gear: A system comprehensively examining the safety performance of protective gears worn by workers at the worksites and whether the technical capability and production system of manufacturers are conforming with the standards on safety certification.
  - Any information concerning KCs safety certification and capacity/rating can be verified through the 'safety certification mark' of the given products, or checked at the NURIJIP of the OSHCI (miis.kosha.or.kr).
- —All protective gears need to be checked for any defects, such as damages or destructions, prior to their use, and all long-used products or any products once heavily shocked should not be used since their protection performance may have been compromised despite no visible defects identified by naked eyes.
  - In addition, it is important to use protective gears that perfectly fit the user's body, and users are required to adjust the fastener of the safety helmet and buckle of the safety harness before putting them on in order to avoid any unnecessary looseness or tightness.
- This guideline (OPL) can be downloaded from the NURIJIP of the KOSHA\*, starting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and will be distributed to over 4,700 sites with 100 people or more, including construction and manufacturing sites, safety certified product manufacturers and specialized vocational high schools.
  - \* Access to NURIJIB of KOSHA (www.kosha.or.kr) → Archive → Safety/Health Data → Search 'Guideline on How to Put on Protective Gear'

Youngtae Kim, the Director General of the OSHCI under the KOSHA, said, "The prevention of occupational accidents starts with the issuance and proper wearing of safe protective gears." Kim also noted, "The OSHCI is dedicated to ensuring all products fundamentally to secure performance, quality and safety and only such products to be manufactured, distributed and used."



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KOSHA

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