

# KOSHA NEWS

Protecting Worker's Life and Health

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KOSHA

## COVER STORY

30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Reaffirming Resolution for Re-foundation and New-start

## NEWS

30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of KOSHA's Foundation, Compiling Trace of Occupational Accident Prevention into Book

Protecting Customer Service Workers' Health through Visiting Service

Production and Distribution of Videos for Preventing Fire Accidents during Welding Operations

15,000<sup>th</sup> Workplace in Risk Assessment

# CONTENTS



01

COVER  
STORY

**03** 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Reaffirming Resolution for Re-foundation and New-start

02

NEWS

**05** 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of KOSHA's Foundation, Compiling Trace of Occupational Accident Prevention into Book

**07** Protecting Customer Service Workers' Health through Visiting Service

**09** Production and Distribution of Videos for Preventing Fire Accidents during Welding Operations

**11** 15,000<sup>th</sup> Workplace in Risk Assessment

03

International  
Cooperation

**13** Forum for Mutual Cooperation for Preventing Occupational Accident in Thailand

04

OSHRI

**15** Expanding Special Health Examination Agency's Analysis Precision Control Items

**16** E-2RE-Research Review

**18** Test operation of occupational acute poisoning monitoring system

05

OSHTI

**20** Foreign Managers Receive Job Training Via the Internet

**21** Cooperation on Occupational Safety Training for Potential Industrial Manpower Anticipated

# “ 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Reaffirming Resolution for Re-foundation and New-start

Announcing Emblem and Slogan Commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of KOSHA's Foundation



**Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA, President Lee Young-Soon) prepared and announced the emblem and slogan commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the agency's foundation.**

- The emblem comprises the number indicating the '30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of foundation' and the curve symbolizing the futuristic dynamics centering on the cross-shaped CI of KOSHA representing 'safety and protection' as well as 'health and happiness.'
- The slogan, 'Toward Happiness Beyond Safety', harbors the will to pursue happiness of both workers and their families on the solid foundation for safety and health.

**KOSHA was established on December 9, 1987, on the basis of the 'Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency Act' which was enacted on May 30, 1987 and is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.**

- Established as the organization exclusively in charge of occupational accident prevention, the agency has given extensive efforts in propagating specialized skills for preventing occupational accidents in industrial settings and establishing the safety and health management system alongside the government.
- Since the foundation in 1987, the number of workplaces covered by the occupational accident prevention program increased 29.4 times and workers, 3.4 times as of 2016, while the death rate per 10,000 workers (‰) dropped from 3.29 down to 0.96 and accident rate (%), from 2.66 down to 0.49, respectively.

\* Death Rate per 10,000 Workers: The ratio of death caused by accident in every 10,000 workers

\* Accident Rate: The ratio of death or injury caused by accident in every 100 workers



## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Reaffirming Resolution for Re-foundation and New-start

- KOSHA had promoted occupational accident prevention programs centering on workplaces frequently manifesting occupational accidents in the beginning, however, has provided the comprehensive occupational accident prevention service by laying more emphasis on technical, financial, and educational supports and programs propagating safety culture from the 2000's in order to expand and intensify the conditions for small workplaces to enhance the safety and health of their workers autonomously and independently.
- KOSHA also secured the status as the world-class professional occupational safety and health agency as the agency held the 18th World Congress on Safety and Health at Work in 2008, was selected as the Chair Organization for the Prevention Culture Section of International Social Security Association (ISSA) in 2010, and held the 31<sup>st</sup> International Congress on Occupational Health in 2015.
- Recently, KOSHA has intensified the Safety Inspection before Work campaign with the catchphrase, "Safety inspection before work, protects your life" in order to firmly establish the pan-national safety culture.

**President Lee said, "Our society and industrial settings are undergoing many changes due to great changes in the environment such as the fourth industrial revolution. By taking the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary as the re-foundation of the agency, we will reaffirm our resolution to make this year the year to intensify our capabilities to prevent occupational accidents to cope with the new age," emphasizing the agency's determination to prevent occupation accident.**

### \* Description of Emblem and Slogan Commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of KOSHA's Foundation

#### • Emblem / Slogan



#### • Meaning of Emblem

The emblem expressed KOSHA's potential for dynamic growth and promising future through the rising curve which holds up the number '30' indicating the 30th anniversary of KOSHA's foundation and the cross-shaped CI of KOSHA representing 'safety and protection' as well as 'health and happiness'

#### • Meaning of Slogan

The slogan implies KOSHA's 30-year journey and future objectives and emphasizes the happiness of both workers and their families built upon the solid foundation for safety and health





## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of KOSHA's Foundation, Compiling Trace of Occupational Accident Prevention into Book

Collecting Anecdotes and Recordings Relating to Occupational Accident Prevention for the Publication of the 30 Years of KOSHA



**KOSHA is holding the 『Occupational Accident Prevention Anecdote and Recording Contest』 to trace occupational safety and health efforts of the Republic of Korea.**

- This contest is held to collect occupational safety and health related materials to be inserted into the 『30 Years of KOSHA』 which will be published to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the foundation of KOSHA.
- Anyone who is the citizen of the Republic of Korea can participate in the contest and the application period starts on March 30 and ends on May 31.
- The contest is divided into two sections: the section on anecdotes that uplift the will to prevent occupational accident and raise awareness of occupational accident and the section on recordings to collect materials with historical value reflecting occupational safety and health.
- Awards will be given to 16 applicants, and a prize of a gift certificate worth 500,000 won will be given to one Grand Prize winner, a gift certificate worth 300,000 won to each of three Excellent Prize winners, and a gift certificate worth 50,000 won to each of twelve Participation Prize winners.
- Applicants can download the application form from the KOSHA's homepage ([www.kosha.or.kr](http://www.kosha.or.kr)) and submit the completed form with the anecdote and recording by e-mail or post or in person.

\* Inquiry: Officer in charge of collection and contest in Future Strategy Promotion Team of KOSHA (052-703-0805, [wonsok96@kosha.or.kr](mailto:wonsok96@kosha.or.kr))

**President Lee Young-soon of KOSHA said, “I hope this contest offers a chance to increase national awareness of occupational safety and health by recording and informing the history of occupational safety and health in Korea.”**



## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of KOSHA's Foundation, Compiling Trace of Occupational Accident Prevention into Book

- He also added, "The compilation of the 30 years of history of KOSHA will become an opportunity to examine our past achievements and efforts and find new possibilities."

### \* Example of Anecdote

- Undiscovered story about great exertions made to establish a system or a program
- Story of undiscovered real heroes of occupational accident prevention in the industrial settings
- Behind story relating to occupational accident prevention involving impressive or heartwarming moments
- Other stories such as the reminiscence of the passion of senior or junior workers for preventing occupational accidents under poor environment

### \* Example of Recording

- **A/V Material:** Photo, film, CD, cassette, etc.
- **Printed Matter:** Article, book, publication, poster, leaflet, etc.

### \* Inquiry: Officer in charge of collection and contest in Future Strategy Promotion Team of KOSHA (☎ 052-703-0805)

### \* Submission

- **E-mail:** wonso96@kosha.or.kr
- **Post:** Officer in Charge of the 30 Years of KOSHA Contents Contest, Future Strategy Promotion Team, Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency  
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# Protecting Customer Service Workers' Health through Visiting Service

KOSHA to Support 1,000 Workplaces Employing 10 or More Customer Service Workers to Develop Worker's Health Protection System and Train Workers



**KOSHA is implementing the 『Consulting Project for Customer Service Worker's Health Protection』 which targets workplaces employing customer service workers.**

\* Customer Service Workers: General term for workers who operate at the closest contact point with customers

**The consulting project for customer service workers' health protection, which will be put into effect for the first time this year, will dispatch the consultants of private agencies to workplaces employing customer service workers to support them to develop the worker's health protection system on the organization's level.**

- The consulting project targets 1,000 workplaces employing 10 or more employees who are consistently engaged in customer service operations and will last from April to November.
- The private agencies' consultants will visit workplaces to △ conduct a survey on the basic status of the workplace, △ conduct consultations on how to manage customer service, △ conduct consultations on customer service risk level by individual workers, △ conduct training on how workers can protect themselves, and so forth.
- Among the 1,000 workplaces, 100 places that require additional management will be selected as the subject of intensive consulting project and will receive in-depth support from the intensive support group comprising experts of various fields such as medicine, nursing, and psychology.
- A casebook introducing workplaces that are considered to have managed customer service outstandingly based on the result of the workplace consulting project will be produced and distributed.



## Protecting Customer Service Workers' Health through Visiting Service

- Also, this project will connect to the Presentation of Best Practice for Occupational Accident Prevention, an event affiliated with the 50th Occupational Safety and Health Week which will be held over five days from July 3, 2017, to discover and award best practices.

**Director Jang-jin Ryu of Occupational Health Bureau of KOSHA said, “We will do our best to improve employer’s and workers’ awareness of customer service and management deficiency through the consulting project for customer service workers’ health protection.”**

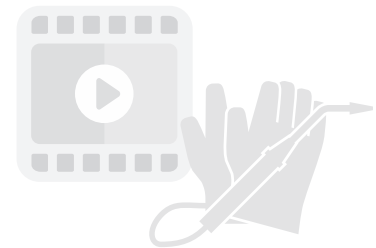
- Meanwhile, KOSHA will be developing and distributing the practice manual (guideline) and self-protection manual for high-risk customer service occupations that the employer can easily apply in order to protect customer service workers’ health while conducting campaigns and training to improve employers’ and consumers’ awareness.







## Production and Distribution of Videos for Preventing Fire Accidents during Welding Operations



Due to recent outbreaks of fire accidents caused by sparks that occur during welding operations in industrial sites, KOSHA produced and distributed videos for preventing fire accidents during welding operations.

\* **March 10(Fri) 2:43pm: Fire broke out at a construction site in Sangam-dong, Seoul.**

- Cause of the accident: sparks from welding operations(approximately 1 billion won of property loss)

\* **February 4(Sat) 10:58am: Fire broke out at a demolition site of the 3rd floor of a commercial building in Hwaseong, Gyeonggi Province.**

- Cause of the accident: sparks from welding operations that later caught on Styrofoam. Four people died and 48 people were injured.

**Welding or fusing operations are very dangerous due to high temperature and sparks that occur when melting metal.**

- The sparks that occur during welding or fusing operations are small, with diameters of merely about 0.3 to 3mm, but their temperatures can reach up to 3,000°C. Not only that, the higher the welding workplace from the ground, the greater the risk of fire since the scattering of welding or fusing sparks gets wider.
- Especially, sometimes when the sparks contact inflammable materials near an operating site, thermal heat build-up occurs, which can lead to fire even after some time.

**The video that KOSHA recently produced is a 6-minute video which helps workers easily understand the fire risks that may occur during welding or fusing operations.**



## Production and Distribution of Videos for Preventing Fire Accidents during Welding Operations

- The video also features experiments on drifting distance of welding sparks, and also smoke combustion experiments for sparks that contact sandwich panels to cause fire even after a certain period of time.
- It also presents specific safety regulations that must be followed at the site in order to prevent fire during welding or fusing operations.

### \* Safety Regulations for Preventing Fire during Welding or Fusing Operations

- Preparation of written permission for fire operations and approval from supervisor of operating department.
- Tidying and placing in order the inflammable materials within the drift area of sparks.
- Measures to prevent sparks from drifting by installing spark scattering preventing covers, welding fire cloth, etc.
- Wearing protective equipment such as safety helmets, aprons, heat-resisting gloves, welding face shield, etc.
- Placing fire extinguishing facilities (fire extinguishers, fire hydrants, etc.) and conducting training on utilizing fire-fighting facilities.
- Disposing fire watchmen.

**This video for preventing fire during welding or fusing operations is posted on the website of KOSHA ([www.kosha.or.kr](http://www.kosha.or.kr)) and also on 'Wigitalchul Anjeonbogeon'(Escaping Crisis and Safety & Health) application, so that it could be used for educational purpose.**

\* Website of the Agency → Safety & Health Resources → Resources Classified by Industry → Videos/Animations

\* Type in the words 'welding, fusing', 'fire prevention, or 'sparks' in the search box.

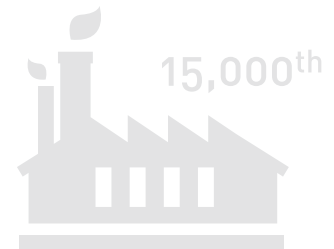
\* 'Wigitalchul Anjeonbogeon'(Escaping Crisis and Safety & Health) application → Safety & Health Resources → Audiovisuals → Videos

**Director Kim Do-Won of Training and Media Bureau of KOSHA said "in order to prevent repetition of major accidents, it is important to create an atmosphere where we can practice safety". He also added "KOSHA will continue to analyze statistics of accidents, labor environments and trends to develop materials that can be of practical help to the site workers".**



## 15,000<sup>th</sup> Workplace in Risk Assessment

KOSHA Confers Certificate to  
15,000<sup>th</sup> workplace in Risk Assessment



**On April 20, KOSHA had a recognition ceremony for the certificate of 「15,000<sup>th</sup> workplace in Risk Assessment」 at the Ansan plant of NongHyup Chemical.**

**\* Recognition ceremony for the 15,000<sup>th</sup> workplace in Risk Assessment**

- **Date:** April 20, 2017(Thur) 11:00-12:00
- **Venue:** Ansan Plant of NongHyup Chemical (152 Hae-an-ro, Danwon-gu, Ansan-si, Gyeonggi-do)
- **Participants:** 40 related people including President of KOSHA and executive direction of the Ansan plant of NongHyup Chemical

- Since the first recognition in July 2014, Ansan Plant of Nonghyup Chemical promoted re-recognition, and got discounts of about 18 million won for the last 3 years.

**The risk assessment system was first introduced on June 12, 2013 as a prior accident prevention activity where businesses identify and reduce the harmful risk elements. After 4 years since the system was first enforced, the 15,000th workplace in risk assessment was born.**

- Ansan plant of Nonghyup Chemical made drastic investments in facilities and continued to run a risk assessment TF team in order to reduce the risks that occur in the process of producing agricultural pesticides (granular, globular and liquid flowable types), and was re-recognized as an excellent business in risk assessment.
- \* Invested more than 600 million won during the recognized period for installing guardrails and protection fences at falling risk areas, installing screw conveyor protection cover limit switches, securing safety passages by installing cross-bridges, reducing noise by installing sound isolation booths.

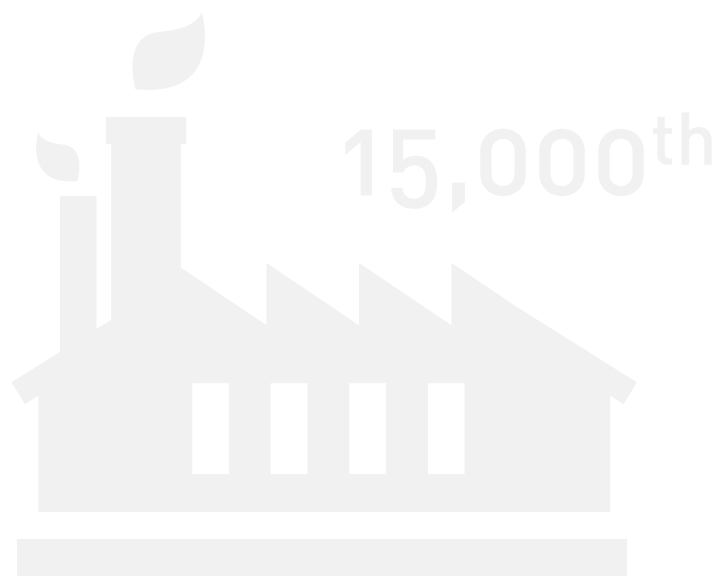


## 15,000<sup>th</sup> Workplace in Risk Assessment

- Ansan plant managed to have the honor of being re-recognized in risk assessment as all the workers including the plant manager completed the risk assessment training course, and carried out voluntary safety activities such as finding harmful risk elements for themselves according to the manual and came up with improvement measures.
- The risk assessment recognition is effective for 3 years. After 3 years since the system was enforced, 388 companies were re-recognized in 2016, and this year, 3,640 businesses are expected to apply for the re-recognition.

\* Re-recognition rate of 2016: 96.0%(388, out of 404 applied, were recognized)

**President Lee Young-Soon of KOSHA said that "risk assessment is an autonomous safety activity where a business owner finds out the risk elements and reduces them. I hope that this system will be widely recognized as a role model of small-sized businesses, and KOSHA will endeavor to play its role and provide support."**





## Forum for Mutual Cooperation for Preventing Occupational Accident in Thailand

Thai Labor Ministry Delegation Visits  
KOSHA Central Regional Office



A forum was prepared for intensifying mutual cooperation and developing preventive measures for occupational accidents of Thai workers.

A Thai delegation of 13 officials including Thai Minister of Labor Sirichai Distakul visited the Central Regional Office of KOSHA in Incheon on February 10.

**\* Thai Minister of Labor and Delegation's Visit to KOSHA**

- **Time and Location:** Central Regional Office of KOSHA in Incheon, 10:00, (Fri) February 10, 2017
- **Participants:** 20 officials of both countries including KOSHA President, Thai Minister of Labor, Thai Ambassador to Korea

Thai Minister of Labor's visit to Korea was arranged to discuss the current labor issues of both countries and the visit will last for four days from February 9.

- Particularly, the visit to KOSHA Central Regional Office was arranged upon the request of Thai Embassy and was arranged to examine the operating status of KOSHA, the agency specializing in occupational accident prevention, and its major accident prevention programs and reflect them in Thailand's safety and health policy and system.
- 20 or more officials including President Lee Young-Soon of KOSHA and Thai Ambassador to Korea participated in the meeting.



## Forum for Mutual Cooperation for Preventing Occupational Accident in Thailand

**This visit began with the discussion on mutual cooperation and development direction through △ Introduction to KOSHA's accident prevention programs, △ Q&A session, and son on, and**

- visitors had a tour of the Central Regional Office's occupational accident prevention centers and public relations facilities such as Virtual Safety Center, Construction Safety Center, Asbestos Public Relations Center.

**President Lee said, "I hope this visit enhances the friendship and cooperation between two countries and contributes to the intensification of the preventive safety and health culture and activities in Thailand."**







# Expanding Special Health Examination Agency's Analysis Precision Control Items

Enhancing Special Health Examination Specimen Analysis Reliability by Developing Standard Specimen for Analysis Precision Control Reflecting Research Results



Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute (OSHRI, Director General Jang-ho Kim) of KOSHA expanded the analysis precision control items applied to special health examination agencies in order to enhance the analysis capabilities and the reliability of examination result by evaluating the analysis capability of domestic special health examination agencies.

For special health examination analysis precision control has been inspected 38 times from 1995 to 2017 and 95% of 98 agencies that participated in the precision control inspection in 2017 received favorable result and were considered appropriate, which confirmed that the biopsy specimen analysis capabilities for special health examination have been maintained at a high level.

- While “Arsenic in Urine” item was added in the analysis capabilities evaluation in 2016, the special health examination analysis precision control inspection held in February 2017 expanded items from existing 10 items for organic analysis and 5 items for inorganic analysis.
- “Phenol in Urine” item was one of the new additions, and it is based on its stability and homogeneity proven through the result of the 「Development Standard Specimen (Phenol in Urine) for Biological Exposure Examination」 which was conducted in 2016.
- The current status of the agencies qualified in the analysis precision control inspection in 2017 is available under Special Health Examination and Pneumoconiosis Health Examination Precision Control [Schedule and Result] menu of OSHRI's website (<http://oshri.kosha.or.kr/bridge?menuId=4916>).

Meanwhile, the regular training for intensifying the capability of workers conducting analysis in 98 special health examination agencies will be held at the conference room of Daejeon Station on March 28.



## E-2R/E-Research Review, Posted

OSHRI Propagates,  
Shares and Spreads Main Results  
of 2016 Core Research Projects



On April 11(Tue), 2016, OSHRI prepared an E-Research Review on the core research projects, that are social issues having implications, of the total 78 research projects conducted, and posted it on the OSHRI website (<http://oshri.kosha.or.kr>). OSHRI also distributed the Research Review to associations related to occupational safety.

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The first theme of this E-2R/E-Research Review focused on Δ broad transcription temporary equipment and material certification marks standards, and Δ selecting guidelines for improving the working environment of senior workers in 15 different types of occupations in easy expressions so that general readers can understand (research background, research results, implications, proposals, improvement measures or policy measures, utilization).

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For the Δ broad transcription temporary equipment and material certification marks standards, an E-Research Review of the safety research area, OSHRI presented "Improvement Directions for the Temporary Equipment and Material Certification Marks Standards that are being Used in Construction Industries and Broad Transcription Measures", introducing the easy inscription forms (certified year, certification number, produced year) and methods and the like together with charts and pictures so that they can be used right away at operation sites.

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## E-2R/E-Research Review, Posted

For the  $\Delta$  guidelines for improving the working environment of senior workers in 15 different types of occupations, an E-Research Review of the occupational environment research area, OSHRI analyzed occupational accidents of senior workers and related occupations that are being emphasized as we rapidly enter the aging society, and reclassified 15 different occupations (Korean Standard Classification of Occupations) where many senior workers work, and identified effects that related harmful risk elements and deterioration of body functions have on each occupation, and introduced guidelines for improving the working environment of the senior workers.

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These E-Research Reviews can be searched and read from the search box and inquiry service on the home screen of OSHRI's website (<http://oshri.kosha.or.kr>). From April to December (about 1 to 2 cases per month), E-Research Reviews on the core research results of 2016 will be introduced.

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Director General Kim of OSHRI said "the purpose of these E-Research Reviews(E-2R/E-Research Review) is to improve utilization of research and prevent occupational accidents by disclosing public information" and "our institute will endeavor to prevent occupational accidents through continuous research for the safety of industrial sites".

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## Test operation of occupational acute poisoning monitoring system

Test operation of acute poisoning disease management system utilizing regional monitoring center for Incheon area

Test operation results of the monitoring system will be reflected when promoting related projects in the future



**OSHRI is running a test operation of a monitoring system for managing occupational acute poisoning disease management.**

**For prevention of occupational material poisoning of organic compounds, heavy metal, acid and alkalis etc., occupational environment measurements and special health diagnoses are being conducted in business places that deal with harmful chemical materials.**

- However, in small size business places that lack exclusive manpower in charge of industrial health, even when occupational acute poisoning occurs due to insufficient information, cases where initial countermeasure fails may occur, and thus a need to construct monitoring and watch system is emerging.

**Accordingly, KOSHA designed a management system based on the research results of "occupational acute poisoning, designing damage management system", and is running a test operation of regional monitoring center in Incheon area through cooperation with the research team of Gachon University medical college.**

- The Central Monitoring Headquarters serves as the control tower, the Regional Monitoring Center consists of a Research Team and a Report Response Team, being provided with an information exchange system with the Regional Arbitration Center via a network, so that patients suspected of occupational acute poisoning can be reported and returned to work, and cases can be shared, allowing business place surveys, pregnancy health diagnoses, and epidemiological surveys etc.
- The Regional Monitoring Center selects diseases to be monitored for occupational acute poisoning, builds management system, and analyzes the results of test operations to come up with long term occupational poisoning disease prevention measures.



## Test operation of occupational acute poisoning monitoring system

**The scale of the management system and necessities derived according to the test operation results will be sorted out, the characteristics of the diseases will be evaluated and reflected to establishing an effective management system.**

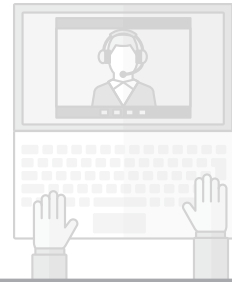
- The need for a continuous promoting of the project will be examined and improvements will be supplemented to prepare a long term project execution measures, based on which an occupational poisoning disease management system roadmap will be devised.





# Foreign Managers Receive Job Training Via the Internet

OSHTI opened internet job training courses for foreign managers



OSH educational courses in English have been created to facilitate safety & health training for foreigners as well.

The Occupational Safety and Health Training Institute (OSHTI, Director General Shin In-Jae) announced its plan to develop an English website and English language contents and run internet job training courses for foreign managers starting from April in order to keep up with the globalization era.

the job training for foreign managers will consist of 6 courses in 3 different industries (manufacturing, construction, and others).

- This year's courses will include contents for improving the job competency of managers, such as general safety & health, and examples of occupational accidents, etc.

According to occupational accident statistics, 6,728 foreign workers experienced occupational accidents last year alone, of which 88 died.

\* According to 'Foreigners' Korean Proficiency' of the Korea Labor Institute, only 43.2% of foreign workers can have simple communication in Korean, and 12.3% can barely speak Korean.

Director General Shin said "foreign workers in Korea are more likely to experience occupational accidents than Korean workers due to lack of communication and experience", and added, "we will remove the blind spot of safety & health education by building infrastructure for foreign workers' job training, and lead the way of occupational accident prevention for those groups especially vulnerable to safety and health risks.





## Cooperation on Occupational Safety Training for Potential Industrial Manpower Anticipated

OSHTI-KNU Signs MOU for Occupational Safety Training for Potential Industrial Manpower



**Two organizations joined hands in order to prevent occupational accidents of potential industrial manpower.**

OSHTI and Kunsan National University (President Eui-gyun Na) signed an MOU mainly on 『Opening and Taking Free e-Learning Courses for Fostering Professional Manpower in Occupational Safety Area』 at Kunsan National University (KNU) located in Gunsan, Jeollabuk-do on February 24.

### \* OSHTI-KNU MOU

- Time and Location: Main Hall of KNU in Gunsan, Jeollabuk-do, 11:00, (Fri) February 24, 2017
- Participants: 10 officials of both organizations including OSHTI President In-jae Shin and KNU President Eui-gyun Na

**According to this MOU, the two organizations will promote a variety of activities such as the opening of e-Learning courses for improving the professional knowledge on safety and health and enhancing practical skills for college students.**

- First, both organizations will cooperate on △ Developing and using e-Learning courses on safety and health, △ Sharing the pool of excellent instructors and training facilities of each other, and △ projects promoted by both organizations in order to foster professional manpower with professional knowledge and practical skills through the cooperation of both organizations in terms of human resources and materials.
- The e-Learning course on construction safety to be opened by KNU through this MOU will be available from March to May. The course comprises 90 sessions (45 minutes each) covering Construction Safety in General, Building Safety, Engineering Safety, and so on.
- e-Learning Division of OSHTI and Outreach Division of KNU will be exclusively in charge of implementing the details of the MOU.



## Cooperation on Occupational Safety Training for Potential Industrial Manpower Anticipated

**“This MOU will provide a solid ground for cooperation for the fostering of professional manpower and prevention of occupational accidents through the occupational health training for prospective workers before joining their workforce,” said Director General Shin of OSHTI, “Both organizations agreed to open additional e-Learning courses in the future and spread the outcomes to other universities.”**

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