

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 27th, 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
- 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.

□ **Gwon Gi-Seop, 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.”