

## **2012 YEAR-END REPORT**

### **Occupational Safety and Health Center**

In the face of the rapidly evolving employment landscape and technological revolution, workers continue to be confronted with emerging risks and hazards. Alongside the age-old perils workers are exposed to, more and more occupational safety and health advocates are needed to protect labor welfare.

In 2012, the Occupational Safety and Health Center focused on strengthening public-private partnerships to intensify the OSH advocacy and reach Filipino workers in all industries across far flung areas and even those who are in the foreign shores. Through the Zero Accident Program (ZAP), the OSHC executed the many programs and activities designed to prioritize the OSH culture in every workplace.

As one of the flagship programs of the DOLE, the ZAP is part of the Decent Work Agenda. It is a long-term strategy to prevent work-related injuries and illnesses through advocacy, capability building, compliance, networking and linkages and productivity promotion.

#### **Advocacy**

To promote the vitality of work safety and health, the OSHC holds two major activities every two years – the Gawad Kaligtasan at Kalusugan (GKK) and the National Occupational Safety and Health (NOSH) Congress.

The GKK is an incentivizing system wherein companies and individuals are recognized for their exemplary contributions to the OSH advocacy. With judges from employers' and workers' groups the government, and professional groups winners are selected based on the company/individual's performance in Safety control and emergency preparedness, Industrial hygiene, Occupational health, Environmental protection and community relations, Social accountability, Capacity building on OSH, safety systems, green productivity and compliance to general labor standards. Compared with 2010's 51 contenders, 2012 posted 109 contenders out of which 28 companies and 11 individuals from a wide range of industries, including energy production, manufacturing, mining and construction companies, emerged as victors – proof of the continuous improvement of work safety and health in the country.

The 13<sup>th</sup> National Occupational Safety and Health Congress on the other hand was attended by more than 500 participants to discuss work safety and health strategies that will not aim for mere compliance but push for enterprise competitiveness. Safety and health experts from Japan, Korea, World Health Organization, International Labor Organization as well as from various government agencies, organizations and occupational safety and health networks (OSHNETS) across the regions converged to share their researches and best practices on improving worker protection, and the integration of safety and health programs in various industries.

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#### **Information dissemination and capability building on OSH**

The DOLE and OSHC continuously strives to increase the number of occupational safety and health (OSH) champions by training more people who could help spread the importance of safety and health in workplaces. In 2012, OSHC has trained 15, 287 workers from more than 5,000 companies raising the number of trained workers by OSHC to 110,144 since 2003. The demand for OSH education continues to rise phenomenally and to address this, the OSHC has developed the e-BOSH, an on-line version of the Basic Occupational Safety and Health Course which is mandatory for all safety officers. Various versions of the BOSH training were also developed to be custom-fitted to the bus transport, mining, and BPO industries.

The OSHC also conducted information campaigns through multi-media channels and developed information, communication and education materials. For 2012, OSHC has conducted an OSH caravan in regions 3, 4A, 10 and 11 and conducted a photography contest with 130 entries nationwide.

#### **Research**

Researches on the control of hazards at work is a continuing program of the OSHC. For 2012, OSHC completed a study on the outcome of administrative polices in relation to accidents in the construction industry.

#### **Technical services**

As part of the program to prevent occupational injuries and illnesses, the OSHC conducts technical services on industrial hygiene, safety control and occupational health. To curb the rise of accidents in the construction industry, OSHC, together with partners from the private sector formed the Safety Patrol which audited on-going construction projects in NCR and Regions 3, 4 and 11.

#### **OSH Networking**

To develop a wider and efficient network for the implementation of the Zero Accident Program, the OSHC focused on strengthening the networks with tripartite partners and other stakeholders. In cooperation with the OSHC, the Occupational Safety and Health Networks (OSHNETS) established in all regions were able to hold 34 batches of BOSH training benefitting 1,465 workers from 840 companies and 20 batches of Construction Safety Training (CST) benefitting 826 workers from 627 companies. Also in partnership with OSHC, the OSHNets held the 2<sup>nd</sup> North and Central Luzon OSH Summit at the Stotsenberg Hotel, Clarkfield Pampanga on June 6-7, 2012; 4<sup>th</sup> Mindanao OSH Summit at the KCC Mall in General Santos City and the Caraga Regional OSH Conference.

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Serving as the secretariat for the ASEAN OSHNet Coordinating Board, the OSHC hosted the two-day meeting at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Manila and continues to perform coordinating duties for OSH training in the ASEAN OSHNet.

| Targets and Accomplishments |   |
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|                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For 2012, the OSHC projected that 36 batches of the mandatory OSH course will be conducted with 24 batches of BOSH Training Course and 12 batches of the Construction Safety Training (CST) Course, along with 20 batches of specialized courses.</li> <li>• As of December 2012, the OSHC, together with the Occupational Safety and Health Networks and DOLE Regional Offices, has conducted 313 batches of 42 different courses on work safety and health. Of this, 59 batches of the Basic Occupational Safety and Health (BOSH) course have been done across the country benefitting 2,665 participants from 1,505 companies and 36 batches of Construction Safety Training benefitting 1,603 workers from 1,122 companies.</li> <li>• The OSHC has also conducted BOSH and CST for the personnel of other government agencies such as DPWH and CSC.</li> <li>• 32 batches of 10 different batches of specialized courses were conducted, benefitting 2,103 participants from 788 companies</li> <li>• 43 batches of 8 types of learning sessions were conducted attended by 3,356 participants from 1,378 companies</li> <li>• 22 batches of OSH orientation were held for 1,461 students from different colleges and universities</li> <li>• 74 batches of OSH appreciation course was held for 200 waged workers and 707 informal sector workers</li> <li>• 21 batches of special lectures for 1,404 workers requested by 422 companies</li> <li>• 5 batches of TOT for 126 participants from all the regions</li> <li>• The OSHC conducted work environment measurements for 186 companies benefitting 62,875 workers, 1,895 tests for 1,027 specimens of personal protective equipment, and occupational health examinations for 1,226 workers in 25 companies.</li> </ul> |