Study on Work Environment Measurement in Ceramic Industry

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Abstract
A fact-finding survey to determine and assess environmental hazards was conducted on 11 ceramics plants. Work environment measurements on potential hazards as dust, heat and noise were done at various points in every ceramics plant. The results indicated that 57% of the subject companies (mostly big ceramics companies) had dust concentration levels exceeding the Occupational Safety and Health Standards; in most areas, higher concentrations occurred at the raw material preparations and molding/pressing operations; heat levels were mostly within the permissible limit in the continuous work, light work load category while all other heat levels exceeded their corresponding threshold limit values at their corresponding work-rest regimen; the noisiest activity in the ceramics manufacturing was the spray glazing operation; noise generated at the pressing and casting operations were generally within the TLV of 90 dB but some levels exceeded because of unmaintained and old machines. Recommendations and control measures were given to improve work place.