

Case Study on Safety and Health Problems in Textile Enterprises

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Abstract

A study to determine the prevailing health and safety conditions, problems and views from management and labor was conducted in 4 textile establishments in the Philippines. Each enterprise was subjected to the same survey methodology. Results showed that high concentration of cotton dust is found in the blow room and carding area of the visited establishments; noise levels are generally high in the weaving areas; toxic chemicals are used during bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing processes; the temperature in the spinning, weaving and finishing areas are much higher than the outside ambient temperature; illumination is inadequate in the ball room, knitting, warping, weaving and cloth; preparation and mechanical means for handling materials for mill operations are limited and which consequently accounted for a large number of accidents. With these results, it was concluded that the major problems in the promotion of occupational safety and health is more evident in less-developed countries such as the Philippines. Several agencies in the government, the labor union and the employer themselves have their corresponding responsibility on the workers' occupational safety and health.