

Study on the Work Environment in Iron and Steel Industry

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Abstract

A study on the workplace environment of 70 iron and steel industries were conducted. Each establishment were subjected to the same work environment measurement to obtain a factual information on the present work environment of the industry. Results showed that large scale companies provide better occupational safety and health services than small-scale and medium-scale ones; different metal concentrations were found to be very low as compared to their TLV; both total and respirable dust concentrations in foundry, molding/casting, and grinding area exceeded the recommended TLV; rollmilling, galvanizing and forging plants have the more noisy processes; heat levels in almost all workareas exceeded the recommended heat level limits; average CO concentration in the foundries, smelting and mill plants were still within the TLV; and air quality in the 77 workplaces was poor in terms of maintaining thermal comfort. Recommendations were given based on the evaluated results.