Hong Kong Experience in Promoting Youth Education in OSH

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Outline

1. Background of OSHC

2. Strategy on Nurturing Safety Culture
   (1) Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education
      - OSH promotion at secondary schools
      - OSH promotion at vocational training institutes and universities
      - Safe Schools Program
   (2) Awareness Based Approach— Launch of OSH Awareness Promotion Program
      - OSH promotion at primary schools
      - Youth Program
The Council is a statutory body established in 1988 under the Occupational Safety & Health Council Ordinance in Hong Kong.

Mission

• To foster a safe & healthy working environment in Hong Kong and to protect our valuable manpower.

• To reinforce safety consciousness to members of the community to cultivate a strong safety culture.
Functions of OSHC

- OSH promotion in community
- Education and training
- Consultancy services
- Research and strategies development
- Information dissemination
- Provision of platform for facilitating exchanges among government, employers, employees, professionals and academics
Mainstreaming OSH into education and training

Strategy on Nurturing Safety Culture

International Safe Schools

Safety Culture

Primary Schools

Secondary/High Schools

Tertiary & Vocational Institutes
Difficulties in integrating OSH into education

- School curriculum is full enough:
  - Chinese, English, mathematics, general studies, music, visual arts, physical education, extra-curricular activities, etc.

- Workload of teachers is high and limited time is available
  - Government’s New Academic Structure
    - “New Senior Secondary Curriculum Reform”
  - Government Language Benchmark Examinations for teachers
  - Heavy teaching duties
  - Carrying out many types of non-teaching jobs, e.g.,
    - school administration meetings,
    - clerical work,
    - preparation of reports,
    - School promotion and student recruitment, etc.
Holistic Approach on Promoting Youth Education in OSH

How to do?

- Knowledge based approach — integration of OSH into education
- Awareness based approach — launch of OSH awareness promotion program
Secondary/High school

- The 3-3-4 academic structures for senior secondary and higher education were implemented in 2009
- New Senior Secondary (NSS) Curriculum (Grade 10-12)
- Eliminates the conventional streaming of subjects into science and arts

1. **Four core subjects**: Chinese Language, English Language, Mathematics, & Liberal studies
2. 20 elective subjects and courses in **applied learning** are offered for students who can choose two or three subjects according to their interests and aptitude
3. At least 15% of lesson time (405 hours) be allocated to “**Other Learning Experiences (OLE)**” including moral and civic education, physical and aesthetic education, community service and **career-related experiences**
Capacity building for secondary/high school students

**Rationale:**
- Promotional effort in secondary/high schools to improve students' OSH awareness in daily life as well as at work is important to reduce potential occupational accidents and diseases in their future career.
- In 2011, OSHC developed the OSH Training Kit under the Other Learning Experiences (OLE) of the New Senior Secondary Curriculum.
- Support of the Education Bureau, Hong Kong Association of Careers Masters and Guidance Masters, and Secondary Schools Principals.
OSH Training Kit

- **Goal:** to foster awareness about OSH among young people
- **Contributes to:** the priority 7.2 of the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Plan of Action -- vulnerable youth worker groups

- **Includes 4 modules:**
  1. Introduction of OSH
  2. Work Safety for Youth & Summer Job
  3. Potential Hazards at Work & Corresponding Safety Measures
  4. Occupational Health
The OLE training kit includes

- A series of interactive exercises:
  - Case studies, group discussion, & hazard spotting activities
- Lesson plans & teaching PowerPoint
- Safety quizzes and reference materials, e.g., OSH video & publications etc.

For example, Module 2  Work Safety for Youth & Summer Job

Lesson plan  Case analysis and “spot the mistakes”  Safety quiz
Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education

The OLE training kit
PowerPoint for teaching

OSH theatre

On-line information
References
OLE workshop:

- 1 hour: classroom training
- 1 hour: visit to OSHC OSH Academy
- OSH Academy was opened on 11 August 2011

- The six-storey academy with a gross floor area of 5,000 squared meters provides 7 interactive classrooms and 23 specialized training rooms, practical grounds and simulated workplaces of different trades
- To cater for different training needs of the industries though practical hands on experience
- “OSH Information Centre” offers trainees and the public a none-stop information service

Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education
Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education

● OLE workshop:

  • Demonstrating the use of safety tools and equipment and practice: fork-lift truck simulator, fire extinguisher digital training system, manual handling facilities, workplace ergonomics facilities etc.

  • Utilizing the latest technology of animations and virtual reality simulations
Over 500 students and teachers (13 secondary schools) participated in the OSH workshop (since August 2011).

- The participants found that the content of the workshop was useful and they acquired OSH knowledge or skills from the workshop (4.25 out of 5).

- Overall they were satisfied with the workshop and the average score of “overall evaluation” was 4.27 out of 5.
Capacity building for vocational training students

- **Rationale:**
  - Interlinking OSH with vocational training is an essential part to instill risk/accident preventive culture among the youths who will shortly become the impetus force in various workplaces and industries.

- The Council collaborated with VTC (Vocational Training Council) to launch a joint OSH education program since 2010
  - the OSH-related Vocational Assessment (VA) program
  - **Goal of the VA program:** to facilitate the VTC students attaining recognized OSH qualifications and to provide them with OSH vocational skills for their future employment and career development
  - Certificates will be awarded to those who have achieved an acceptable OSH standard.
Knowledge Based Approach —
Integration of OHS into Education

Capacity building for vocational training students

- VTC, Youth College and Hong Kong Design Institution offer full-time courses for Secondary Three to Five (Grade 9-11) graduates in diploma/high diploma programs
- Students of these courses joined the VA program
Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education

Capacity building for vocational training students

- Vocational Assessment (VA) for Safety, Health and Environment I & II (SHE I & II)
- Two levels of assessment questions for SHE I and SHE II in multiple-choice type benchmarked with Qualifications Framework (QF) levels I and II respectively
- SHE I & II have been incorporated in different courses: Mechanical Engineering, Automotive Technology, Building Services Engineering, Beauty Care & Hairdressing, etc.
Capacity building for vocational training students

- The total number of students sitting for SHE I & II was 6,776 (SHE I: 3,656; SHE II: 3,120)
- The average passing rate for SHE I & II was 92% and 82% respectively
Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education

“OSH Best Project Award ” for university and post-secondary students

● Rationale:
  • Active OSH learning needs to start with the youths and research
  • as a mean to encourage university and post-secondary students to study OSH-related issues
● Objectives of the “OSH Best Project Award”
  • To encourage university and post–secondary students to appreciate the importance of occupational safety and health in their studies
● Each post-secondary University/College/ Intuition of Vocational Education/Training Academy is invited to nominate students for the Award
Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education

“OSH Student Research Scholarship” for university and post-secondary students

- Objectives of the “OSH Student Research Scholarship”
  - To promote applied research related to occupational safety and health by students who study in post-secondary institutions in Hong Kong
  - To reward students or groups of students who show potentials of implementing quality applied research in their study; and
  - To subsidize the expenses incurred in the proposed study

- Students enrolling in post-secondary University/College/Institution of Vocational Education/Training Academy are invited to apply for the Scholarship
Capacity building for graduate engineers

- **Rationale:**
  - Professional engineers play an important role in occupational safety and health.
  - Safe design and safe operation of engineering works not only prevent injury due to accidents but also increase productivity.
  - Engineers in different industries can help prevent accidents by providing safe engineering designs/machinery/maintenance/control systems, etc.
  - To enable engineers to fulfill these duties, they need to possess knowledge of safety and health that is seldom included in the curriculum during their engineering education.
  - OSHC and Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) jointly organize safety training courses for graduate engineers under the HKIE Training Scheme A.
Capacity building for graduate engineers

- Health and safety courses for graduate engineers include:
  - Health and Safety for Graduate Engineers (Construction Industry)
  - Health and Safety for Graduate Engineers (General Engineering Purposes)
  - Health and Safety for Graduate Engineers (Processing Industry)
  - Health and Safety for Graduate Engineers (Information)
  - Health and Safety for Graduate Engineers (Electrical and Mechanical Industry)
Health and safety courses for graduate engineers

- These courses focus on several OHS areas, including safety legislation and standards, general safety and control, safety management, occupational health, risk assessment

- Specialized safety courses:
  - Risk Assessment for Graduate Engineers
  - Construction Safety Management Systems Training for Graduate Engineers
Promoting Safety Culture in Schools and Community

Our belief

School is a place where knowledge is taught and children/youth derive many of their values.

Promoting safety and health in schools is one of our key initiatives to nurture safety culture in our society.
Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education

Safe Schools Program

In 2005, OSHC launched the Hong Kong Safe and Healthy School Accreditation Scheme

Objectives

• to protect the safety and health of all teachers, staff, students and other people in schools, as well as to build and maintain closer relationships with families and the community
• to create a safer, healthier, harmonious working and studying environment for everyone
Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education

Safe Schools Program

Hong Kong Safe and Healthy School Accreditation Scheme

- 60 kindergartens, primary schools and secondary schools participated in the Safe and Healthy Schools Accreditation Scheme
- 23 schools were accredited as Safe and Healthy Schools

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Accreditation Schemes</th>
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<th>Accredited with Outstanding Performance</th>
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<td>6</td>
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Quality assurance is strictly implemented to ensure high standard of the Accreditation Schemes
Knowledge Based Approach —
Integration of OHS into Education

Safe Schools Program

International Safe Schools Program

- OSHC was appointed by WHO being one of her International Safe Schools Certifying Centres in 2009

- **International Safe Schools Program** is under the framework of the World Health Organization (WHO) Safe Community initiative

- **Objective:** to apply the best practices of proven injury prevention programs to protect the safety and health of teachers, staff, students and visitors in school environment
Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education

Safe Schools Program

International Safe Schools Criteria

1. An infrastructure based on partnership and collaboration
2. Safe school policies
3. Long-term, sustainable operational programs
4. Programs target high-risk groups and environments
5. Document the frequency and causes of injuries
6. Evaluation measures to assess policies, programs and the effects of change
7. On-going participation in Safe Schools Networks
Knowledge Based Approach — Integration of OHS into Education

Safe Schools Program

International Safe Schools Program

- All over the world: about 80 international safe schools
- In Hong Kong: 9 schools got accredited as international safe schools:
  - 6 Nursery school, 1 primary school, and 2 special education schools
Primary schools

● Rationale:
  • By teaching young people OSH knowledge at an early age, we can strengthen the foundations in our society in the future

● Education begins at home
  • OSHC promotes OSH among children and their families by continuing to cooperate with Metro Radio in producing and broadcasting a series of programs, as well as organizing primary school visits and competitions with the theme of “Care for Safety and Care for your Family”
  • To improve OSH awareness of primary students, and through the activity, enhance the understanding of work safety of their parents, arousing the OSH awareness of every family, in order to achieve the target of “practice of OSH, and guardian of the family”
Primary schools

- **Activities:**

More than 200 primary students built a 15x20 ft OSH model using 150,000 LEGO bricks, the largest of its kind ever created in Hong Kong
Awareness Based Approach—Launch of OSH Awareness Promotion Program

Primary schools

- Activities:

  School visits and seminars

  Workshops (for both parents and primary students)

Outstanding OSH family members to attend radio show to share experience on “Care for safety and care for your family”
Primary schools

• Activities:

Banner Design Competition (more than 1,000 artworks received)

Computer Animation OSH Story Completion
Hong Kong Science Museum-OSH Gallery

• Advanced technology changes our living standard, however, OSH is often overlooked
• To arouse the OSH awareness of the public, OSHC established OSH Gallery
• A pioneering project between the Leisure & Cultural Services Department and OSHC to cultivate a safe culture for the youngsters
• Offers a series of well-designed interactive multi-media presentations to enhance knowledge on safety and health at work
Youth OSH Program

- **Rationale:**
  - In addition to the integration of OSH into general education, the Council has also developed a lot of youth programs to foster OSH awareness among young people.
  - The Council has launched a lot of programs/campaigns, OSH seminars and exhibitions to promote work safety for Young People.
  - In addition, many OSH books, posters, bulletins, multimedia (videos, YouTube) and other publications have also been developed and distributed to schools and the public free of charge.
The Council annually launches the “Youth Occupational Safety and Health Promotional Campaign”
- Focuses on promoting work safety on youth through a series of activity, such as distributing of OSH kit, and organizing seminars as well as joint youth program with radio to reinforce the importance of work safety

“Awareness Based Approach—Launch of OSH Awareness Promotion Program

Youth OSH Program

“The OSH Safe Tee Design Competition”

“My OSH Blog Competition”

“Safety Quiz”
The OSH Safe Tee Design Competition

- Teenagers are likely to take summer jobs and part-time jobs, yet their lack of safety knowledge can put them at risk
- The Council co-organized by the Occupational Safety and Health Council and the RTHK2 Teenpower to launch the “OSH Safe Tee Design Competition”
- Enable young people to incorporate safety and health concepts into their fashion designs, increasing their awareness on occupational safety
- to instill a proper safety and health attitude and knowledge into youth’s mind
Youth OSH Program

- "My OSH Blog Competition"
  - The objective of this competition is to encourage the youth to share their experiences or observations of workplace safety and health practices around them.
  - The Council jointly launched with the RTHK 2 Teenpower.
  - The upload could be in form of messages, photographs or short video for promoting occupational safety and health.
Safety Quiz

- Since 1992, the Council has organized Safety Quiz annually which aims at reinforcing the occupational safety and health knowledge of the public.

- Safety Quiz comprises three categories: enterprises, unions and schools: encouraging both workers and students to help disseminate OSH messages.

- The OSHC also developed a Safety Quiz Handbook which comprises of 18 parts that generates more than 1600 OSH questions and answers. Its content covers OSH knowledge of various industries and sectors.
Other activities:

The “Occupational Safety Greeting Card” design competition gives youngsters a chance to express their concerns about OSH and to care for their families.

The “TeenPower Carnival 2009-cum-Inauguration of the ‘Comic Drawing on Occupational Safety’”

OSH exhibitions disseminate OSH knowledge to the new generation so as to lay a solid foundation for safety culture.
Planning for the Future

- Consolidating existing programs
- Continuous to nurture Safety Culture
Thank You!

www.oshc.org.hk