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Social Occupational Health and Safety Initiatives



Philosophy

The EKK Group strives to create workplace environments conducive to both physical and mental health based on the EKK Group Management Philosophy of “management that respects human dignity based on commitment” and trust and its Basic Group Safety Principle that “safety is not only fundamental to management that respects human dignity but also a personal desire and mission of all Group personnel.”

Health and Safety Management

Based on the EKK Group’s Occupational Health and Safety Management Regulations, the Group has set up a line-and-staff occupational health and safety management organization. Headed by the president, and with the general manager of the Safety, Environment & Quality Control Office serving as occupational health and safety manager, at each plant, a staff department exclusively dedicated to health and safety coordinates with line managers through senior managers, under the leadership of a plant manager serving as a health and safety manager. Plants carry out occupational health and safety activities based on ISO 45001 (occupational health and safety management systems). In the course of these systems’ operation, education and training for each level is defined, and health and safety awareness training is provided annually to all employees.

Health and Safety Regime

The Environment, Health and Safety Central Conference, chaired by EKK’s president, meets twice annually to conduct management reviews.

Furthermore, the Sustainability Committee receives reports providing overviews and engages in discussions regarding health and safety activities, and based on these, annual plans and results are reported to the Board of Directors.

Health and Safety Committees

Together with their labor unions, every plant has established and operates its own Health and Safety Committee. Additionally, the EKK Group has established the Central Health and Safety Committee as a central organization. The Central Health and Safety Committee oversees and reviews health and safety policies and their implementation status throughout the Group. It meets twice annually.

EKK Occupational Health and Safety Policies (Revised May 1, 2018)

Basic Group Safety Principle

Safety is not only fundamental to management that respects human dignity but also a personal desire and mission of all Group personnel.

Basic Concept

Based on its Group Basic Safety Principle, the EKK Group fosters physically and mentally healthy human resources brimming with vitality and conducts occupational health and safety activities that tap into an occupational health and safety management system mindset to realize comfortable, accident-free workplaces that offer career fulfillment.

Activity Policy

1. Appropriately identify and assess hazards associated with business activities and reduce material risks with the participation and cooperation of all employees.
2. Set occupational health and safety targets and pursue better performance through continuous improvement.
3. Comply with laws, regulations and consensual requirements such as industry guidelines and directives. (Other requirements such as industry guidelines related to the environment)
4. Respect active discussion in the workplace, recognizing that good communication is integral to occupational health and safety.
5. Provide education and training required to ensure occupational health and safety while raising employees’ consciousness to promote universal awareness of health and safety’s importance.

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Health and Safety Risk Management (Risk Assessment)

The EKK Group strives to reduce health and safety risks. The Group conducts safety inspections of new equipment before it is put into use, confirming that it conforms to internal standards and that there are no health and safety issues. Before new work processes are implemented, the Group conducts a risk assessment to prevent workplace accidents.

Work processes which have already undergone a risk assessment are also periodically reviewed based on work-related injury cases and close calls. In addition, every site identifies operations and processes that pose a high degree of risk (e.g., work performed high off the ground, press operation, forklift operation), classifying and managing risks on a priority basis. Regular health and safety patrols are conducted as well to check work management status and identify potential risks.



Safety Pledge Day

March 22 of every year is designated as Safety Pledge Day based on an all-encompassing commitment to safety first. Every workplace holds monthly health and safety meetings to foster a perpetual safety culture.

Traffic Safety Initiatives

The EKK Group proactively educates its employees and the public on traffic safety, including outside of working hours, to realize its management objective of having a happy workforce with happy families and to help keep local residents safe. Every year before mid-summer and New Year's holidays, plants invite outside experts to speak about traffic safety. Their secretariats coordinate with the speaker to ensure an effective presentation through such means as addressing topics of local interest or the latest traffic safety data.

The Group also elevates employees' traffic-safety consciousness and promotes accident-free, infraction-free driving on a year-round basis through such means as giving internal awards to employees with perfect driving records and taking part in external traffic safety campaigns.

Initiatives Targeted at Overseas Affiliates

The EKK Group conducts periodic occupational health and safety inspections of overseas affiliates. In cases where the incidence of workplace accidents is higher than normal, the Group places priority on working more closely with and providing information to the company in question while respecting local ways and culture.

Health and Safety Data

Workplace Accident Data (Domestic Group Companies)

	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
Lost-time incident frequency rate	0.74	0.72	0.14
Lost-time incident severity rate	0.007	0.003	0.001

Proportion of ISO 45001-Certified Plants to All Plants

The Headquarters and the manufacturing plants and Group companies in Japan consist of 14 locations, of which currently 13 have acquired ISO 45001 certification.

We plan to acquire certification at all 14 sites by FY2024.

Health Promotion

The EKK Group seeks to help its employees stay healthy or get healthier both physically and mentally. Its health initiatives include a 24-hour telehealth service that offers consultations on a broad range of concerns, including not only employees' personal health but also parenting and eldercare.

Management personnel's annual training also addresses mental health, and training for new hires includes mental health education provided by public health nurses.

Plants invite outside doctors as instructors to provide mental health education. Plants that run two or three shifts a day also create opportunities for superiors to provide education on good sleep hygiene, given sleep's important role in recovery from fatigue for shift workers in particular.

The Group actively supports physical and mental health management through such means as an employee mental healthcare initiative featuring coordinated involvement of occupational medicine practitioners, public health nurses, registered nurses and management personnel.