WORKSHOP ON ASIAN ERGONOMICS ROADMAP

FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN DEVELOPING ERGONOMICS RESEARCH AND APPLICATIONS IN THE PACIFIC STATES

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PPCOE aims for “GLOCAL” ergonomics. This means always thinking of ergonomics theory from a global perspective while taking action from the local perspective of the Pacific states. When taking the local perspective, ergonomics activities must be closely associated with the people living in the Pacific states. In particular, the emergence of the aging society with a low birthrate that will be an increasingly serious problem in this region through the middle of the 21st century must be sufficiently recognized. As long as occupational ergonomics activities are inferred from this perspective, special consideration must be given to the work conditions and ergonomics of child labor, female workers, and aging workers. And ergonomics generally requires ergonomics design that takes these workers into consideration.

The PPCOE was established to share information about ergonomics activities in the Asia-Oceania region and to promote standardization based on this information. The following two issues must be addressed going forward for the near future.

1. Establishing an ergonomics association for all countries and regions in the Pacific states as soon as possible. The first step in achieving this goal is to work to have Indonesia, the Philippines, and New Zealand join. The second step is to have Laos, Cambodia, and Myanmar join, and the third step is to have the countries of the South Pacific join.

2. Establishing an ergonomics standard for Pacific states. This requires the following four things to be done.
   i. Standardization of machinery, tools, devices, etc.
   ii. Standardization of guidelines, etc., for work conditions and ergonomics in occupational safety and health.
   iii. Standardization of ergonomics education and training.
   iv. Sharing of all success stories relating to ergonomics activities.