

# Participation in the Kuwait International HSE Conference

## 1. About the KIHSE Conference

Mr. Tsuyoshi Nakai, CEO of JCCP, and five other members from JCCP participated in the Kuwait International Health, Safety and Environment Conference (hereinafter referred to as the KIHSE Conference), which convened in Kuwait on February 16 and 17, 2015.

The KIHSE Conference was inaugurated this year under the main leadership of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), with the objective of providing a forum for HSE experts from around the world to share the knowledge and expertise of their country toward building HSE strategies and ensuring their continued success in the oil and gas sectors in the Gulf countries and throughout the world.

The conference commenced with an opening presentation by Dr. Ali Saleh Al-Omair, Minister of Oil-Kuwait, under whose patronage the conference was held.



*Opening presentation*

On both days, a plenary presentation session was held in the large auditorium in the morning, and three tracks on environment, health and safety were held in the afternoon, featuring presentations and Q&A sessions in each track.

Representing JCCP, Mr. Nakai gave a presentation at the beginning of the first day's plenary session, and Mr. Tetsuo Arie, Counselor, gave a presentation in the Session 2 environment track held in the afternoon of the first day, and spoke about the contributions Japan and JCCP activities have made in the HSE field.



*Presentation by Mr. Tsuyoshi Nakai, CEO of JCCP*

## 2. HSE Activities and JCCP's Contribution

In his presentation, Mr. Nakai introduced the perspective of “legal regulations + ISO +  $\alpha$ ” in describing how safety management in Japan is characterized by rigid legal safety criteria as well as Japanese-style work processes, and discussed how these processes are supported by teamwork and human resource development. With regard to teamwork, he explained that giving responsibility and authority to each individual placed in charge of an operation forms the foundation for the development of a distinctly Japanese safety culture. With regard to human resource development, he explained the importance of continuing daily activities, and noted that the Japanese culture that forms the foundation of this concept could already be observed in the 14th century collection of essays entitled *Essays in Idleness*.

### *Essays in Idleness: “Famous Tree Climber”*

There was a man who was known as an expert tree climber. Whenever he ordered his apprentice to do some work high up in a tree, he would remain silent when the apprentice came upon a dangerous spot, but would call to him to be careful to climb down without hurting himself, only when the apprentice had climbed down to around the height of the eaves of a house. The reason for this, the expert explained, is because at dizzying heights where tree branches are thin and dangerous, nothing needs to be said, as the climber himself will pay careful attention;

accidents occur precisely when the climber reaches heights that are not so dangerous and lets his guard down.

Mr. Nakai used this story to explain the dangers of dropping one's guard and the necessity of issuing a precaution, and introduced how safety culture is firmly established through such awareness raising practices as "finger pointing and calling," danger prediction activities and identification of potential dangers, which are routinely implemented at worksites in Japan.

Mr. Nakai also spoke about environmental countermeasures, describing Japan's history of achieving sustainable growth during the country's high-growth period, not only by strengthening regulations and capital investment, but also by implementing anti-pollution measures and energy conservation policies, and the subsequent changes in the focus of energy policies and environmental countermeasures. He additionally discussed initiatives for wastewater purification in coastal waters and waste reduction.

Mr. Nakai explained that JCCP wishes to contribute to development in each region and country by sharing the formidable knowledge that Japan has accumulated. To this end, he said JCCP has continued to receive foreign participants to training programs in Japan and to send Japanese experts abroad since its establishment in 1981, so that as of fiscal 2013, 796 participants from around the world (including 399 from the Middle East) have benefited from JCCP training in Japan, and 80 Japanese experts have provided their expertise in oil-producing countries (including 34 to the Middle East).



Presentation by Mr. Tsuyoshi Nakai, CEO of JCCP

### 3. Issues and JCCP's Initiatives in the Environmental Sector

Mr. Arii introduced the initiatives of Japan's oil industry in response to needs for energy efficiency and



Presentation by Mr. Tetsuo Arii, Councilor, JCCP

for a low-carbon society, and explained the importance for the oil industry in both oil-producing and oil-consuming countries to pursue technical development in consideration of the fact that oil resources essentially serve two purposes — as an energy medium and as a raw ingredient for new materials. He also noted that the oil market will see a diversification of energy conversion and concentration of carbon gas processing in the future, and introduced Japan's R&D and commercialization initiatives toward this trend.

Lastly, Mr. Arii reaffirmed JCCP's commitment to support mutual cooperation between oil-producing and consuming countries for effective energy utilization, and to implement activities that provide technical support to Japanese companies' cooperation with oil-producing countries.

### 4. HSE Initiatives in Each Country

The presentations given by speakers from different countries all shared the awareness that HSE is a universal responsibility that forms the foundation of their company, and that the commitment of the top management



Closing ceremony

and the creation of a safety culture through human resource development are indispensable to fulfilling that responsibility. In addition to Kuwait, the speakers included important figures from Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain and Oman, but their presentations indicated that HSE is a priority issue common to all countries.

The KIHSE Conference showcased various views and knowledge through 50-some speakers, including government ministers, corporate CEOs and other important figures, and was closed with a promise to be convened continuously next fiscal year and beyond.

*<by Kunio Kawashima, Training Dept.>*