

REPORT

I got the flight from Hanoi to HCM at 10 Am, 25 July 2014. Then I got a taxi from the airport to the bus station to get a bus to Dac Nong factory. Dac Nong is a province located on Southern highland, 270km from HCM city which is equal to about 7 hours moving by car.

After a long journey, finally I arrived at the factory at 16:00 as appointed.

When I arrived at the factory, it was raining very hard. This time is raining season at this highland, which affects productivity of the factory.

After welcoming me, the Factory Director took me around to visit the factory. As usual, we started with the raw stone warehouse, then cutting section, polishing section, flaming section, drain water treatment pool, workers pantry, toilets...

My impression about the factory was positive. Compared to the factory in Quy Nhon, this factory has much smaller size but the professional level is not much behind.

I want to add that Dac Nong and Quy Nhon factory was initially military factories that were why they have very severe and professional working style. They had printed out all warning and instructing banners of Fair Stone about safe production, labor protection and hang on each section, suitable with the material Step by Step I. All the banners had explanation in Vietnamese which are easy to understand and to see. From my point of view, they had already had their own banners hang in the factory.

The majority of workers were wearing labor protection uniform, but as I saw, they were not wearing them properly to ensure safety while working.

The main material of the factory was granite and black basalt.

By the time I was there, there were about 20 workers. The duration to visit the plant was about 1 hour.

At 17:00, workers have a break and were asked to gather in the meeting room to join the workshop.

After a hard working day, they still expressed their interest in the workshop and wanted to know what Win-Win Fair Stone was.

Before starting the workshop, I asked them some questions whether they had ever had training about labor safety or known vocational diseases that they could possibly get.

They all answered that that was the first time they joined such a workshop.

Before starting, I asked them to sign on the document for the workshop, gave them material related to the subject of the workshop: OSH and PPE. All these materials had been printed in color, bound with hard cover, translated into Vietnamese so that they could understand.

The factory had also prepared all necessary labor protection uniform.

As usual, I started by introducing briefly about Win-Win Fair Stone, the meaning and purpose of the workshop to workers.

I introduced workers meanings of labor safety warning banners, they seemed to be very interested in guessing the meaning of each banners/signs.

Risks of not wearing labor protection uniform were illustrated via examples of injuries in eyes, head in Win-Win Fair Stone material that I had given them.

I strengthened that wearing labor protection uniform was good for them first, then good for the company.

Then, I spent most of the time during the workshop to introduce to them vocational diseases that they could possibly get while working for a long time in natural stone field, which were lung dust and deafness. They wanted to know what to do to avoid these diseases. I found that they seriously absorbed the knowledge during the workshop.

The workshop ended at 18:00 then workers went back home to prepare for the next working day.

After the workshop, I had a short meeting with the Factory Director to discuss some information that the factory and workers would need to do once they became WiN-WiN member. I also explained him some items that he was not sure.

(...)

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