KNFC President Yang

Novel-Writing CEO with Warp of Science



Korea Nuclear Fuel of CEO Yang Chang-Kook

President Yang Chang-Kook of Korea Nuclear Fuel Co., Ltd. (KNFC) is well known as a 'young CEO' among his employees. This is because the company's style itself has become younger since his inauguration. The sensitive, speed and ethical management style, which he has been advocating since he assumed the CEO post, reminds one of a TV ad copy 'Age Is Nothing But a Number.'

Born in 1941, CEO Yang always joins various company club events, including a marathon, and enjoys PC games like Starcraft. Yang drinks Soju with his employees freely and selects and sings only the latest songs at the Noraebang (karaoke room). At meetings for all employees, he delivers his management philosophy and emphasizes

managerial points with presentations that he prepares himself. He conducts regular interviews with his employees, and also has frequent dialogue with them via e-mail, responding to their questions and suggestions unfailingly however busy he may be.

This unreserved atmosphere full of humanness generated by the CEO himself is contributing significantly to the conversion of KNFC's corporate culture into a more vigorous and dynamic one. CEO Yang holds executive and staff seminars every Friday to create a learning environment. Participants in the seminar may speak freely after selection of 'Free Themes' regardless of whether they are work-related or personal interest. Of course, common subjects, such as leadership, management guidelines or strategies, also are included in each seminar.

As an expert worthy of the name having been engaged in the nuclear power field for 35 years, CEO Yang works tirelessly for publicity activities, contributing to regular columns of scientific journals and local dailies in order to stress the safety of nuclear power and to secure radioactive waste disposal sites.

President Yang is one of a few international experts in the nuclear fuel field in Korea. In the 1960s when even the concept of nuclear power was unfamiliar in Korea, Yang majored in nuclear engineering and subsequently participated in the construction and operation of Korea's nuclear power plants for 30 years after joining Korea Electric Power Corp. in 1969. While serving as CEO and auditor of KNFC, he has made considerable contributions to enhancing the nation's independent nuclear fuel technology and the safety and economic viability of nuclear power. In recognition of his distinguished service, he received a Bronze Tower Order of Industrial Service Merit from the government in September this year.

Although he has little free time due to his nuclear scientist and CEO roles, CEO Yang is also a novelist who has published three long novels. He is handling three different kinds of jobs with ease, something most people cannot even conceive. Soaked into his novels is not only his expertise as a scientist but also his philosophy. His most recent published work 'Who Am I? Human Clone T2' is a story that depicts moral problems between a human and his clone, his confusion over having been deprived of everything by his proxy clone all of sudden one day.

He is also writing a novel with a nuclear scientist as the main character who is working to find the most desirable solutions to nuclear waste processing sites through his conflicts with residents living near a nuclear power plant. His novel is intended to seek communications with the future with the 'Hope' raised by his agony and introspection as CEO of a nuclear fuel firm and scientist. KSA Newsletter 4



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