

Open letter to General Motors, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Audi, Mazda, Honda

Pays up compensation and lifelong medical treatment to the victims of explosion in Kunshan Zhongrong, Jiangsu Province, China now!

5 August 2014, Hong Kong

SACOM strongly condemns the explosion in Kunshan Zhongrong Metal Products Co Ltd. (hereinafter Zhongrong) on 2 August 2014. As at 3 August 2014, the incident caused at least 69 dead and injured more than 180 workers. Many injured victims have burn over 75% to 95% of the total body surface and at least 11 workers are still in critical condition. According to the media, we learnt that the explosion was caused by the burning of inflammable metallic dust.

Zhongrong is under the supply chain of Discastal and produced wheel rim for automobile companies such as General Motors, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Audi, Mazda, Honda. SACOM demands the involved companies to take up their corporate social responsibility to pay up the compensation and lifelong medical treatment for the victims and their families!

The production relationship between Zhongrong, Discastal and its clients, exposes the complicated globalised supply chain. High profit was generated by taking advantage of low wages in developing countries, where labour rights are severely exploited or even workers' lives are sacrificed.

In 2011, SACOM reported the dangerous aluminium dust accumulation in iPad production line in Foxconn Chengdu. But neither Apple nor the factory reacted to the warning. Only a few months later, a deadly explosion happened, killed 3 workers and injured many.

SACOM is outrageous with employers' continuous negligence of work safety where workers are always at fatal risk. We sternly demand all involved companies to take their corporate social responsibility to pay up the full compensation for the victims and their families, especially the lifelong medical treatment for burn injured workers. We request the government of Kunshan City and Jiangsu Province could investigate the case seriously, open the detailed report to the public and give a detailed measure to prevent the occurrence of similar incident.

We request the General Motors, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Audi, Mazda, Honda to reply our letter by **8 August 2014**. Contact person: Kwan Liang (Project Officer, SACOM) at email [kwan\[at\]sacom\[dot\]hk](mailto:kwan[at]sacom[dot]hk)

Initiated by

Students and Scholars Against Corporate Misbehaviour (SACOM)