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**Measuring Environmental Performance Toward Sustainable Steel Works:
A Case of POSCO in Korea**

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Abstract:

In line with growing importance of environmental management in business circles, the implementation of a system for measuring and evaluating corporate environmental performance becomes one of key agenda both for internal management purposes and for external relations with a wide range of stakeholders. To deal with this subject, academia, practitioners and many international organizations like OECD, ISO, WBCSD have elaborated appropriate schemes and indicators to implement environmental performance evaluation. Among them, ISO 14031 document is going to be published in the end of 1999 and the subsequent document ISO/TR 14032, which incorporates seventeen industrial cases from different countries, is also at the finalizing stage.

The paper examines a relevant case on measuring environmental performance at the POSCO, a world largest steel maker mainly operated in Korea. The case was developed in accordance with ISO 14031 scheme, which requires planning, selecting indicators, using data and information, reviewing and improving. POSCO established its environmental management system based on ISO 14001. Through running the system, the company realized the necessity to re-identify its environmental aspects and effects and to revise its environmental objectives and targets. At the stage, the company decided to adopt the environmental performance evaluation scheme based on ISO 14031 for developing new indicators and is now trying to integrate the environment into all of its business activities to enhance the company's eco-efficiency.