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EMPLOYER'S INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE THE USAGE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) AMONG WORKERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITE

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2020

ABSTRACT

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is one of the safety elements in the construction site. Department of Safety and Health Malaysia (DOSHM) has listed seven (7) type of PPE that shall be complied when conducting the works at the construction site. The usage of the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) helps to reduce the risk and avoid hazard among workers when conducting the works. However, most of the workers choose to forgo the PPE. Hence, DOSHM stated that the rate of accident case at the workplace has been increased gradually year by year. One of the factors that influenced the accident is the workers refuse to wear the PPE that has been provided. Thus, this attempts to investigate the employers' initiative on encouraging the usage of PPE among workers at site in order to improve the safety on site. The objectives of this research were (1) to identify the reason of not using PPE in the worksite, (2) to measure which PPE that commonly neglected at the worksite, and (3) to identify the factor that can encourage the usage of PPE among workers at site. Using the questionnaires approach, 174 questionnaires has been successfully answered by the construction parties in Kedah, Penang and Perlis. All of the collected data were analysed using descriptive statistics. The study can be inferred overall, that the construction parties are agree that workers do not wear PPE because lack of safety training by employer is the reason for the workers not using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the worksite. Next, that the construction parties are strongly agree that workers do not wear PPE because lack of safety training by employer is the reason for the workers not using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the worksite. Lastly, the construction parties are agreed the workers who failed to comply with the rules of wearing the PPE in construction site can be punish with relevant punishment that reasonable as the best initiative that can encourage the usage of PPE among workers at construction site. The findings of this study would assist the

ACKOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, The Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

I am most grateful to The Almighty – Allah swt. It is with His greatest blessings that I finally able to complete and submit my Final Year Project Dissertation with the title of "Employer's Initiative to Improve the Usage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Among Workers in the Construction Site"

I would like to also thank my wise lecturer, En Abdul Muhaimin bin Ab Wahid, for his patience and guidance in enlightening me throughout the completion of this task. Not to forget to both of my parents for endless support especially on the financial support.

All praises be to Allah swt. I am thankful for everyone who has lent a helping hand throughout the completion of this Dissertation.

Sincerely,

Nurul Syuhaiba binti Mahdzir

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CHAPTER 1:

INTRODUCTION

1.1 TITLE

EMPLOYER'S INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE THE USAGE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) AMONG WORKERS IN THE CONTSRUCTION SITE

1.2 INTRODUCTION

Construction sector in Malaysia has been highly developed. Construction sector are known as heavy sector that contribute to Gross National Income (GDP). According to statistics by Official Portal of Department of Statistics Malaysia that have been released on Thursday 17, May 2018 stated that Construction Sector have contribute about 4.8% from total GDP Q1 2018.

Generally, construction industry involved a serious of occupational risks, such as work at heights that required the used of scaffolding, gangways, and ladders; excavation works that need the used of explosives techniques, and earth moving machine; and many more work that are specifically done according to the construction sectors. As development activities became more complex, there are variety of problems arises including problems from near accident and accident occurring at a construction site. The contractor has to pay the accidents cost and loss of productivity that have been occurred due to the variety of cases occur on the construction site. (Ulang *et al.*, 2014)

In order to keep the site safe, the client, contractors, subcontractors, and designers must work together and put some effort to improve the safety performance (Farooqui *et al.*, 2009). The construction team can improve safety by considering the necessary systems, tools and motivation. In order to improve