SAFETY MANAGEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION PLANT AND MACHINERY

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DECEMBER 2005

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For the writing and completion of this research, I am indebted to a number of people. Dr. Abu Hassan Abu Bakar deserves first mention for his invaluable assistance and encouragement as well as sharing his thought and knowledge while I was exploring the research.

Special gratitude to those who involves in the preparation of this research, namely, as follows:

- a) En. Halim Abu, Safety Manager for KLCCB.
- b) Pn. Alinda Puteh, Manager, Construction Personnel Development Department, CIDB.
- c) Ir. M. Ramuseren, Senior Manager, Safety And Standard Unit, CIDB.
- d) Tn. Hj. Rosli Hussin, Head of Q.S Department, UiTM Perak.
- e) Cik. Asmalia Che Ahmad, Q.S Department, UiTM Perak.
- f) Staffs at SIRIM, Shah Alam and NIOSH, Bangi.

Last but not least, I would like to express my special thanks to my wife Natasha Khalil and my parents, Hj. Husin @ Husain Dawi and Hjh. Rusnah Md. Lasi; all family members, as well as to all my friends and colleagues of UiTM Perak. Thank you.

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ABSTRACT

These past few years has seen that the government has made an effort on executing safety and health policies through the enforcement of guidelines as well as conducting site safety seminars and certifications. Ranked as a second industry in Malaysia that contribute to highest percentage of accidents at the worksite, the impact of loss of profit and unhealthy workplace affect the construction industry. Statement from statistic has shown that construction plant and machineries becomes one of the caused for the accidents. Therefore this research as titled "Safety Management for Construction Plant And Machinery" tries to delineate the relationship and the importance of safety management for construction plant and machinery by designing and proposing an application model that can be used as guidelines for the management. Directive method is used in order to obtain the findings of the research. A basic management application model as suggested by Walker, A (1993), is proposed to be used as a generic model to highlight the key features. Distribution of questionnaires and informal interview with the 25 selected respondents of whom are representatives from PKK Class-A Contractors were conducted in order to identify current practice and the extents of regulations enforcement on safety management for construction plant. The finding reveals that the setting up of safety committee becomes the main factor of practicing safety at the worksite. However, other than that, the safety aspects are still vaguely being addressed. The reason on the failure of implementing safety aspect for construction plant management is due to ignorance of the contractors to highlight safety as an important element, especially operational activities at site.

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The present Occupational Safety And Health (OSH) situation in the workplace is still very much adverse and below expectation (Nadasapillay, K.; 2002). Accidents and diseases still occur and they are a cause for concern as the available statistics show that the percentage of accident occurs in the workplace is alarmingly increased (SOCSO, 2000).

Construction industry is one of the workplaces that are categorized as hazardous workplace. Precedent studies and analysis done by Department of Occupational Safety & Health (DOSH) revealed that the number of accidents occur in this industry is very high. In addition, it is also a known fact that a lot of minor accidents go unreported. Even fatal accidents are in some instances not reported if the next of kin are unaware of their rights. This can be taken to mean that safety is not improving in a steady movement. Through workers, it is aware that working conditions in many places are still hazardous and the hazards are not eliminated, minimized or controlled. When the Statistics for the year 2000 was released, the Malaysian Society for Occupational Safety and Health responded immediately (Nadasapillay, K.; 2002). It said that the scenario could have been better if a comprehensive and effective plan or programmed is carried out to eliminate the problems.