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**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND
HEALTH (OSH) PRACTICES IN MALAYSIA'S CONSTRUCTION
SITES**

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ABSTRACT

Records commonly show that construction field is the top industry that has high frequency of injuries and fatalities due to the nature of works which is commonly taking place outdoors under condition which are unfavourable to health and safety. Realising this issue, Government have introduced numerous initiatives but does not seem to work well as the statistics of accidents in construction sites keep growing over the year. Therefore, this study is conducted to achieve the objectives to identify the barriers encountered by Safety and Health Officers in implementing Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) practices in construction industry and to recommend effective ways to improve Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) practices in Malaysia's construction industry.

This study aims to investigate the implementation of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) practices in Malaysia's construction industry. The state of Selangor has been selected based on the establishment of the location with numerous construction sites operating.

It was found that Safety and Health Officer frequently experiences issues in term of lack of awareness and an effective action is in need of to improve the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) practices in construction sites.

As a summary, this study points out the roots problems of the higher accidents rates in the construction industry and come up with effective recommendation from literature review and supported by the respondents. Through this study, it was hoped to give overview to employers and employees on the safety practices in construction industry.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 RESEARCH BACKGROUND	1
1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT	2
1.3 RESEARCH AIM	3
1.4 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES.....	3
1.5 RESEARCH QUESTION	4
1.6 SCOPE OF STUDY	4
1.7 GENERAL METHODOLOGY	4
1.8 SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY	6
1.9 SUMMARY	7
2 LITERATURE REVIEW.....	8
2.1 INTRODUCTION.....	8
2.2 DEFINITION OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (OSH)	8
2.3 HISTORY OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT (OSHA) IN MALAYSIA	9
2.4 OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (OSH) PRACTICES IN MALAYSIA'S CONSTRUCTION SITES	10
2.4.1 Barriers of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Practices in Malaysia's Construction Industry.....	12
2.4.2 Recommended Ways to Improve Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Practices in Malaysia's construction sites	19
2.5 SAFETY PROFESSION	25
2.5.1 Safety Profession in Malaysia	25

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 RESEARCH BACKGROUND

Construction industry is known to be one of the industries that has a high level of hazard with high accident rate. Mostly, accident happened because of combination of unsafe action from the employees and unsafe surrounding condition (Othman *et al.*, 2018). Ismail, Doostdar and Harun, (2012) found that some construction companies does not provided their staff with basic Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as safety helmet and safety boots. This may lead to a serious injury accident. Low safety awareness creates challenges to the safety and health officer in order to manage the construction safety (Gao *et al.*, 2018).

Safety is a condition where unexpected events, such as accidents are being avoided to protect human being, environment, equipment and property from unreasonable risk (Li and Guldenmund, 2018). In construction industry, it is difficult to implement safety practice among workers because of high turnover rate in the industry (Gao *et al.*, 2018). New employees are not aware about the safety practice in construction site because companies employ foreign workers that are incompetent because they were less picky, more hardworking have higher endurance and did not mind of the lower daily wages (Ismail, Doostdar and Harun, 2012).

In Malaysia, a few major cases that involved fatality usually related in civil engineering works where involved with public safety and comfort. For example, a falling beam in Light Rail Transit (LRT) construction sites had injured two motorist and damaged their