

## ABSTRACT

Title: Awareness of Safety Management and Safety Behaviour among Malaysian Small and Medium Enterprise Workers; NIOSH Vendor

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### Abstract:

This study was conducted to determine the level of compliance with occupational safety and health (OSH), identify the problems faced by subcontractors working in the utility sector and the proposed Action Plan for Improvement (API). The study population consisted of subcontractors involved in the category of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), which are divided into five (5) sectors of Telecommunications, Electricity, Gas, Water and Sewerage (TEGAP). Sampling design method was using Stratified Random Sampling of respondents that were randomly selected from a subcontractor company registered with the ten (10) main contractors in the TEGAP sector. The numbers of respondents involved in this study were 514 companies. The instruments used were through face to face interviews, observation and the use of questionnaires. The questionnaire used consists of nine (9) parts that were Part A: Profile of Respondents, Parts B: Company Profile, Part C: Training and Supervision, Part D: Safe Operating Procedures, Part E: OSH Risk Management, Part F: OSH Communications/ report, Part G: Management Commitment, Part H: Employee Attitudes Toward the OSH and Part I: Problems encountered in compliance with OSH. The results showed that, in general, there was no significant OSH compliance issue. However, the level of OSH compliance has space that could be improved as the mean value for each part was in between 4 (slightly agree) to 5 (agree) on a numerical scale (1: strongly disagree to 6 strongly agree). The GAS sector had a level of the highest OSH compliance (mean score: 4.9), while the SEWERAGE sector has the lowest level of OSH compliance (mean score 4.5). From the results of this study, seven (7) of the main problems faced by subcontractors TEGAP sectors had been identified (according to the position of highest to lowest) were the communication problems, financial constraints, the short period of notification of the project, the high rate of migration of OSH high-skilled workers, OSH equipment inadequate and inappropriate, inadequate and inappropriate OSH training, and the lack of OSH expertise in the field of work. After compliance issues were identified, API was developed to increase the level of OSH. There were 57 activities had been proposed taking into account the feedback from the respondents and related authorities. To assess the effectiveness of the API, there were five (5) pilot program had been successfully developed and implemented; OSH Module and the Integrated Training Workshop, OSH Assessment Document and Feedback, OSH Project Management Guide Pocket Books, Portals and Apps "SMILE-SME" and OSH video.