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COSSH

2016

SOFT LAUNCH

by Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye
NIOSH Chairman

19th CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH

21st - 23rd August 2016 | www.myniosh.com

PUTRAJAYA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE (PICC)

“BRIDGING THE OSH GAP THROUGH A PREVENTION CULTURE”



Speech by NIOSH Chairman,
Tan Sri Datuk Seri Lee Lam Thye
For Conference and Exhibition on
Occupational Safety and Health (19th
COSH) 2016 Soft Launch

Date : 30 March 2016
Venue : Rafflesia Hall, NIOSH Bandar Baru Bangi

NIOSH's efforts in organising the annual Conference on Occupational Safety and Health (COSH) should be commended due to our initiative towards enhancing occupational safety and health awareness in Malaysia.

The theme for COSH 2016, *"Bridging the OSH Gap through a Prevention Culture"* calls for managements responsible for the safety and health at the workplace to change the attitude and perception of their employees on safety and health through OSH awareness programme, effective OSH management, OSH competency, and most important, accident prevention culture.



In this regard, it is important for NIOSH, as an organisation entrusted to promote Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in Malaysia, to provide a platform for employees, employers, academicians, OSH practitioners, industries and participants to present and share their views and ideas on a wide range of OSH issues.

It is no longer adequate to merely provide work instructions to workers without supplementing them with appropriate skills and competency needed through education and training so that they would understand the rationale of minimising risks to their safety and health as well as meeting the industrial and OSHMS requirements.

COSH 2016 would indeed be another ideal forum to contribute to further enhancement of OSH. It is the best avenue for those who are striving to upgrade the health and safety standards in their respective companies and organisations, raise their OSH concerns and cooperate in formulating the best solutions and strategies to address those concerns.

There is no fast track in the practice of safety and health in the industry. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure that employers and employees are able to close the OSH gap through information, education and training so that they know best how to protect themselves.



Ultimately, this will lead to improvements in safety management systems in the workplace, enhancement of safety standards in the country and in the long run, it will lead to increased productivity and profitability.

Increasingly, the promotion of safer conditions in the workplace is based on promoting a culture of risk and accident prevention that can improve the health of workers and the productivity of the enterprise.



The overall responsibility for providing a safe and healthy working environment rests with the employers who should demonstrate their commitment to OSH.

This can be done by building and maintaining a preventive safety and health culture that addresses the principles of prevention, hazard identification, risk assessment and control, information and training.

Workers, on the other hand, have a duty to cooperate with their employers in implementing OSH programmes.

They should observe and adhere to the procedures and other instructions designed to protect them and others present at the workplace from exposure to occupational hazards.

All work-related accidents and ill-health can be prevented if there is adequate foresight, planning, organisation and commitment to identify where the hazards are, assess the risks and take action before an accident happens or an illness is contracted.

Preserving human health is the key objective of social security. Promoting and creating a safety and health culture can save lives and reduce costs to society.

It is high time for employers and employees to be fully committed to workplace safety. The government, employers and employees must be committed to achieving a work culture that ensures safety and health. It must be emphasised that there should be no compromise on safety and health at the workplace.

Ultimately, when OSH is integrated into the organisational culture and becomes a core value, involvement and commitment from top management down to the rank-and-file employees can be further reinforced.

We need to emphasise effective leadership to produce better OSH management, increased productivity and enhanced performance.

The culture of an organisation dictates employee behaviour. Thus, the culture determines whether or not any safety programmes will be effective.

However, culture is not established by written policies but through effective leadership, day-to-day actions and decisions as well as the system in place that will ensure OSH is practised by managers, supervisors and work teams.

Leadership, through actions, systems, measures and rewards determine whether or not safety will be achieved in the organisation.

Leading effectively means knowing how to inspire people to channel their energies towards adopting OSH best practices. The quality of leadership shown by the management is vital in developing high standards of health and safety practices.

Lastly, I would like to thank all those involved in making this annual event a success. Let us all dedicate ourselves to creating and promoting a safety culture at work.

On this note, it is my pleasure to launch COSH 2016 Theme and Logo, entitled "BRIDGING THE OSH GAP THROUGH A PREVENTION CULTURE".

Thank you.

TAN SRI LEE LAM THYE
Chairman, NIOSH Malaysia

Memorandum Persefahaman (MOU) antara NIOSH dan Sabah Port Sdn. Bhd.



Majlis Menandatangani Memorandum Persefahaman (MOU) antara Sabah Port dan NIOSH telah dijalankan di Sabah Port Sdn Bhd pada 31 Mac 2016. MOU ini merupakan kerjasama antara NIOSH dan pihak Sabah Port Sdn Bhd dalam program NIOSH Safety Passport (NPtSP) yang dimeterai selama 3 tahun.

Majlis tersebut telah dihadiri oleh Pengarah Eksekutif NIOSH, Tuan Haji Zahrim Osman dan Pengurus NIOSH Sabah iaitu Encik Mohd Hussin Abd. Salam. MOU tersebut ditandatangani oleh Tuan pengarah NIOSH dan Mohd Sahid Haji Nawab Khan, Ketua Pegawai Operasi Sabah Port Sdn. Bhd.

Diharap dengan termeterai perjanjian tersebut projek ini dapat dijalankan dengan jayanya bagi membantu industri-industri di Malaysia khususnya di sektor perkapalan memahami dengan lebih mendalam isu keselamatan dan kesihatan pekerjaan dan membantu membangunkan garis panduan KKP di sektor ini.



Lawatan Delegasi daripada Sudan



Pada 2 Mac 2016, NIOSH telah menerima lawatan kerja rasmi daripada Delegasi Kementerian Pembangunan Insan & Buruh, Kerajaan Negeri Khartoum, Sudan melalui Universiti Teknologi Malaysia Razak School Kuala Lumpur (UTMRSKL). Delegasi tersebut terdiri dari 4 orang pegawai iaitu:

1. **H.E. Mr Osama Hassona Ahmad**
(Menteri Pembangunan & Buruh Kerajaan Negeri Khartoum)
2. **Mr. Mohamed Mustafa Gasim Allah Alamin**
(Ketua Setiausaha, Kerajaan Negeri Khartoum)
3. **Ms. Asma Hassan Osman**
(Pengurus)
4. **Mr. Ali Omer Eissa**
(Pengurus)

Tujuan lawatan ini adalah bagi mempelajari dan mengetahui dengan lebih dekat pelaksanaan dasar KKP yang dipraktikkan oleh NIOSH. Delegasi ini tiba di NIOSH pada jam 10.00 pagi dan disambut oleh barisan pengurusan tertinggi NIOSH. Ucapan aluan diberikan oleh Pengarah Eksekutif NIOSH Tuan Haji Zahrim Osman. Delegasi ini diberi taklimat ringkas mengenai aktiviti, peranan dan tanggungjawab NIOSH sebagai sebuah badan yang menjalankan aktiviti latihan, perundingan, penyelidikan dan penyebaran maklumat bagi aspek Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan.

Delegasi ini dibawa meninjau dan melihat secara dekat aktiviti yang dijalankan oleh NIOSH, seperti Pusat Simulasi Ruang

Kunjungan Hormat Pasukan Puspanita Cawangan Kementerian Sumber Manusia (KSM) ke NIOSH

Pada 3 Mac 2016, NIOSH menerima kunjungan hormat daripada Puspanita Cawangan Kementerian Sumber Manusia (KSM). Kunjungan tersebut terdiri daripada Y. Bhg Datin Seri Hj Fatimah binti Hj Kassim, Penaung Puspanita Cawangan KSM, YBhg Datin Sri Pengerusi Puspanita Cawangan KSM bersama-sama Ahli Jawatankuasa Induk dan ahli-ahli Puspanita Cawangan KSM. Seramai lebih kurang 150 orang ahli Puspanita Cawangan KSM telah menghadiri majlis tersebut.

Majlis tersebut telah berlangsung di Dewan Cempaka, Menara NIOSH Bandar Baru Bangi dengan begitu meriah sekali. Ketibaan Pengerusi dan Ahli-ahli Puspanita Cawangan KSM pada petang itu disambut dengan penuh gilang-gemilang. Turut hadir ialah Pengarah Eksekutif NIOSH, Tuan Haji Zahrim Osman dan Isteri Puan Eliza Basa, Setiausaha Eksekutif NIOSH, En Ayop Salleh dan isteri, pengurus-pengurus dan Ahli Puspanita NIOSH. Majlis dimulakan dengan taklimat keselamatan dari wakil NIOSH, bacaan doa dan ucapan dari Y.Bhg Datin Sri Pengerusi Puspanita Cawangan KSM. Jamuan ringan (Hi-Tea) Jasamu Dikenang telah dimeriahkan dengan persembahan tarian, nyanyian, tarian poco-poco dan cabutan bertuah dan acara sampingan. Majlis tersebut bersurai pada jam 5.30 petang.



Terkurung, Klinik Kesihatan Pekerja dan Makmal-makmal NIOSH. Diharap dengan lawatan yang singkat ini, NIOSH akan dapat menjalin hubungan kerjasama dengan negara-negara luar di dalam bidang Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (KKP) di masa akan datang.

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● JUMAAT 18 MAC 2016 BH



Kadaan sebahagian struktur bangunan kilang yang dalam pembinaan runtuh di Bayan Lepas, Pulau Pinang, semalam. [FOTO RAMDZAN MASIAM/BH]

Dua buruh parah dihempap konkrit

» Lantai bangunan enam tingkat dalam pembinaan runtuh

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Georgetown

Dua buruh Bangladesh parah selepas dihempap runtuh lantai konkrit bangunan kilang enam tingkat yang masih dalam pembinaan di Bayan Lepas di sini, semalam.

Kedua-dua mangsa cedera di kepala, belakang badan, patah kaki serta ta-

ngan. Seorang rakan mereka cedera ringan dalam kejadian kira-kira jam 3 petang itu.

Mangsa berusia 30-an yang berada di tingkat satu, tidak sempat menyelamatkan diri ketika lantai seberat 400 tan itu runtuh.

Semua mangsa dikejarkan ke Hospital Pulau Pinang (HPP) untuk rawatan dan keadaan mereka dilaporkan stabil.

Tak dapat tumpang berat rangka konkrit

Timbalan Pengarah Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamatan negeri, Mohamad Shohi Hamzah, berkata siasatan awal mendapati bebanan struktur lantai berkenaan tidak dapat menampung berat rangka konkrit sehingga menyebabkan berlaku runtuh.

"Pemeriksaan mendapati runtuh itu berlaku di

tingkat dua bangunan berkenaan sebelum menghempap tiga pekerja Bangladesh," katanya di sini.

Shohi berkata, siasatan sedang dijalankan bagi mengenal pasti punca kejadian dan kerja pembinaan dihentikan sementara bagi memudahkan bomba menjalankan siasatan.

Sementara saksi, Jahagir Hassan, 30, berkata dia terdengar bunyi hentakan kuat sebelum melihat sebahagian struktur lantai bangunan di tingkat dua runtuh dan menghempap rakannya.

Dia yang berada di tingkat satu kemudian terdengar bunyi runtuh dan jeritan pekerja lain yang meminta mereka melarikan diri.

"Sebaik mendengar jeritan rakan, saya terus bergegas ke kawasan," katanya.

Kaki kiri terkoyak

■ Pekerja binaan parah dilanggar forklif

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Seorang pekerja pembinaan mearung kesakitan apabila kaki kirinya terkoyak akibat dilanggar jentera pengangkut forklif.

Dalam kejadian kira-kira jam 7.30 petang semalam, mangsa yang parah di sebuah tapak pembinaan di Jalan Ampang, di sini, dibantu rakan setugas.

Pegawai Pasukan Jabatan Pertahanan Awam Malaysia (JPAM) Kuala Lumpur Shahrul Kamar Mohd Johari berkata, kejadian berlaku ketika mangsa sedang bekerja di kawasan pembinaan berkenaan.

"Kami menerima panggilan kecemasan membabitkan mangsa seorang lelaki berusia 28 tahun yang cedera di kaki akibat dilanggar sebuah forklif.

"Empat anggota JPAM bersama sebuah ambulans bergegas ke lokasi. Sebahagian di kawasan itu, kami mendapati mangsa su-

« Kami menerima panggilan kecemasan membabitkan mangsa seorang lelaki berusia 28 tahun yang cedera di kaki akibat dilanggar sebuah forklif »

Shahrul Kamar Mohd Johari

dah dibawa keluar oleh rakannya," katanya ketika dihubungi Harian Metro, semalam.

Menurutnya, pemeriksaan terhadap mangsa mendapati kaki kiri berhampiran lututnya mengalami luka terbuka sepanjang kira-kira 10 sentimeter selain mengalami kecederaan dalaman di bahagian perut.

"Mangsa kemudian segera dihantar ke Hospital Kuala Lumpur (HKL) untuk menerima rawatan susulan.

1,617 eskalator diperiksa

Putrajaya: Sejak seminggu lalu, Kementerian Sumber Manusia menerusi Jabatan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (JKKP) sudah memeriksa 1,617 jumlah eskalator di seluruh negara bagi memastikan aspek keselamatan pada kemudahan itu dipatuhi mengikut standard yang ditetapkan.

Timbalan Menteri Datuk Seri Ismail Abd Mutalib berkata, hasil daripada pemeriksaan itu, pihak JKKP turut mengeluarkan 186 Notis Penambahbaikan dan Surat Arahan kepada pemilik premis atau bangunan bagi meningkatkan

tahap keselamatan penggunaan eskalator.

Beliau berkata, notis penambahbaikan berkenaan membabitkan aspek papan tanda; pemagaran dan peralatan pencegah memanjat (anti-climbing).

"Antara peranti keselamatan yang diperiksa membabitkan butang berhenti kecemasan, garisan penanda kuning untuk berpijak; suis tepi dan 'deflector switch'," katanya

pada sidang media selepas menyertai 'Operasi Selamat Penggunaan Eskalator' di sebuah kompleks beli-belah, di sini, semalam.



ISMAIL (kiri) bersama Pengurus Besar IOI City Mall Putrajaya, Chris Wong (dua dari kiri) memeriksa eskalator di IOI City Mall Putrajaya.

DUA BURUH PARAH DIHEMPAP KONKRIT

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KAKI KIRI TERKOYAK

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1,617 ESKALATOR DIPERIKSA

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Date of Publication: 1 March 2016
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● JUMAAT 4 MAC 2016 BH

ISU PENGGUNAAN SIJIL KOMPETENSI PALSU

MYKPP rekod status pengendali kren

» JKKP dalam peringkat akhir bangun bank data untuk semak dokumen sah

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Jabatan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (JKKP) kini dalam peringkat akhir membangun bank data yang merekodkan pengendali kren warga tempatan yang mempunyai sijil kompetensi sah.

Menerusi bank data itu yang dinamakan Sistem Aplikasi Dalam Talian MYKPP, syarikat kontraktor yang mahu menggunakan khidmat pengendali kren boleh menyemak kesahihan dokumen berkenaan secara dalaman talian.

Pengarah Bahagian Keselamatan Industri Ibu Pejabat JKKP Malaysia, Ibrahim Md Dol, berkata sistem itu dijangka dapat digunakan sepenuhnya pada April ini.

Katanya, sistem berkenaan dijangka mengatasi isu penggunaan khidmat-warga asing atau tempatan yang menggunakan sijil kompetensi palsu bagi mengendalikannya semua jenis kren di tapak binaan.

ia membabitkan sistem bersedia bagi memantau secara sistematik yang dibangunkan me-



MYKPP diyakini dapat memantas kegiatan mengendali kren jenis menara, beroda dan berantai di tapak binaan secara tidak sah. [FOTO ASTAR/ HANZAH/BH]

rangkumi pendaftaran dalam talian mengikut piasa sebenar pengendali perancang dan operator kren jenis menara, beroda dan berantai.

ia sudah dilaksanakan bermula dengan pendaftaran dan pembinaan sijil pegawai keselamatan dan kesihatan pekerjaan, penyalia keselamatan tapak binaan, penguji gas bertekanan dan penyalia.

Beliau berkata, semua pihak terutama kontraktor boleh memanfaatkan sistem ini sama ada menerusi telefon pintar atau komputer bagi menyemak kompetensi pengendali kren.

Malah, katanya, sijil kompetensi yang dipaparkan boleh dimuat turun.

Modul MYKPP pada peringkat ini pejabat sudah dilaksanakan, manakala pada peringkat pengendali kren jenis menara, beroda dan berantai di tapak binaan.

MYKPP dapat memantas pencapaian sijil kompetensi JKKP," katanya kepada BH.

Beliau mengulas laporan BH berhubung pendedahan operasi JKKP Kuala Lumpur dan Putrajaya yang menemui kegiatan penggunaan sijil kompetensi palsu oleh warga asing untuk mengendalikannya semua jenis kren, beroda dan berantai di tapak binaan.

Dalam pada itu, katanya, antara ciri-ciri keselamatan MYKPP ialah semua sijil atau surat dari

pengkalan data MYKPP disertakan dengan 'Quick Respond Code' atau QR.

"ia boleh dimas dengan aplikasi pembaca kod QR menggunakan telefon pintar. Maklumat dari imbasan ini akan dipaparkan oleh pangkalan data MYKPP, mesti serupa dengan apa yang ada pada sijil bagi tujuan pengesahan," katanya.

Antara maklumat yang dipaparkan ialah gambar, nama, nombor kad pengenalan dan tempoh sijil kompetensi.



MANGSA yang tersepit di mesin pencetak plat. Gambar kanan, keadaan tangan mangsa yang tersepit.

Tangan 'dimamah' mesin

Kuala Lumpur: Seorang remaja lelaki hanya mampu mearung kesakitan apabila tulang tangannya hampir hancur akibat tersepit pada mesin pencetak plat.

Dalam kejadian jam 5.11 petang semalam, mangsa, Muhammad Hafiz Muhammad Azhar, 19, melakukan tugas pencetak plat di kilang tempatan yang beroperasi di sini.

"Sembilan anggota bomba membantu mengeluarkan tangan mangsa.

"Anggota penyelamat menggunakan alat hidrolik untuk meregangkan mesin itu sebelum mengeluarkan tangan kanan mangsa yang parah," katanya.

Sabri berkata, pemeriksaan awal terhadap mangsa mendapati mangsa cedera di bahagian tangan kanan dan patah tulang tapak tangan.

"Mangsa dihantar ke Hospital Sungai Buloh," katanya.

Bagaimanapun, pergel-

Ketua Balai Bomba dan Penyelamat Sungai Buloh Sabri Samsuddin berkata, pihaknya menerima panggilan kecemasan sebelum bergegas ke lokasi kejadian jam 5.11 petang.

"Sembilan anggota bomba membantu mengeluarkan tangan mangsa.

"Anggota penyelamat menggunakan alat hidrolik untuk meregangkan mesin itu sebelum mengeluarkan tangan kanan mangsa yang parah," katanya.

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"Mangsa dihantar ke Hospital Sungai Buloh," katanya.

TANGAN 'DIMAMAH' MESIN

Publication: Harian Metro
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Page number: 57

MYKPP REKOD STATUS PENGENDALI KREN

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PERKETAT SOP DI TAPAK BINAAN ELAK KEMALANGAN

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USE BEHAVIOR-BASED APPROACH

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Georgetown

Perketat SOP di tapak binaan elak kemalangan

Prosedur Operasi Standard (SOP) di kawasan tapak pembinaan perlu diperketatkan bagi mengelak kemalangan yang kerap dilaporkan berlaku dalam kalangan pekerja ketika ini.

Presiden Persatuan Pengguna Pulau Pinang (CAP) SM Mohamed Idris berkata, laporan Kementerian Sumber Manusia tahun lalu mendedahkan 92.5 peratus tapak pembinaan didapati tidak mematuhi spesifikasi ditetapkan Jabatan

Kesihatan dan Keselamatan Pekerjaan (DOSH).

Beliau berkata, 1,200 pekerja didapati terbabit dalam kemalangan yang menyebabkan mereka mengalami kecacatan fizikal akibat kemalangan dalam tempoh sama.

"Keadaan ini berlaku berikutan pekerja tapak pembinaan mengambil mudah notis keselamatan dan tidak mematuhi undang-undang sedia ada kerana tiada langkah penguatkuasaan dibuat. "Oleh itu, menjadi

tanggungjawab syarikat pembinaan mematuhi syarat DOSH dan memastikan pekerja menggunakan peralatan keselamatan disediakan bagi mengelak risiko kemalangan," katanya, di sini, semalam.

Mohamed Idris berkata, berikutan itu, DOSH perlu melakukan pemantauan berterusan di tapak pembinaan dan mengelak daripada memberi alasan jabatan itu tidak mempunyai pegawai yang cukup.

OSH IN SCHOOLS



Regular safety audits can reduce the accident rate in schools.

Importance of safety audits

A YEAR Two pupil from SRK Jasir in Malacca sustained injuries after the wall of the school building collapsed on her due to strong winds on Saturday. This shows the importance of regular safety audits to ensure that school buildings and their surroundings are safe.

Safety audits should be conducted on building structures and basic infrastructure in schools, such as classrooms, laboratories, canteen, toilets and playgrounds.

"I would like to propose that schools, universities and higher education institutions conduct safety audits once in every two years to identify weaknesses.

Regular safety audits can reduce accidents involving students, school staff or visitors.

The statement by Education Minister Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid that schools that are 25 years and older must do rewiring to prevent fires and other incidents is appropriate.

This is in line with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's (NIOOSH) goal to help organisations, including schools and universities to prioritise safety and embrace a safety culture.

We welcome the action taken by the Education Ministry, through district Education offices, to monitor and identify schools that need help to do rewiring or to repair building structures, including fences.

I am sure that the assurance given by the education minister that the government remains committed to providing assistance to schools in need, despite the global economic slowdown, is a relief to people, especially teachers and parents.

Statistics from the Department of

Occupational Safety and Health show that between 2012 and last year, there were 18 accidents and one fatality reported in schools while 10 accidents and one fatal accident occurred in institutions of higher learning.

Apart from the safety audit, schools also need to establish safety procedures for students and teachers, so that accidents can be avoided, and they can carry out activities in a safe environment.

For instance, safety procedures should be established for the classrooms, teachers' room, chemistry and physics laboratories, offices, canteen, school playgrounds, as well as safety procedures for electrical wiring.

As an organisation responsible for implementing activities related to occupational safety and health, or OSH, NIOOSH feels committed to foster OSH culture in schools and educational institutions.

That is why NIOOSH introduced the OSH In School programme to create awareness about safety and health in schools.

This is our corporate social responsibility project, which is implemented with sponsorship from corporate organisations.

Schools are a place of work. Teachers and school staff are the employees, while students, parents and visitors are people affected by the activities of employees in the workplace, as defined under the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994.

TAN SRI LEE LAM THYE, Chairman, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

WORKPLACE SAFETY

Use behaviour-based approach

THE construction industry is a catalyst for economic growth and development. To ensure progression and success, we need a professional and skillful workforce and workers with exposure and competency on safety and health at the workplace.

Those in the construction sector should be aware of the consequences of flouting safety guidelines and cutting corners, poor design, shoddy workmanship and inadequate supervision.

Behaviour-based safety (BBS) can be applied to the industry.

Accidents caused by poor safety management at construction sites must be addressed. Those responsible must learn from past accidents and be prepared. Accidents, such as the collapse of building scaffolding or falling objects resulting in deaths or injuries, must be taken seriously.

BBS addresses factors of influence and reinforces learning and behaviours. It is linked to company culture and values and, most importantly, is an excellent tool to improve safety at the workplace.

Reports of falling cranes at construction sites resulting in the damage of homes and public property are matters of serious concern. Construction activities carried out without regard for the environment have resulted in environmental mishaps, such as floods and landslides.

Such accidents could affect the image of the company, delay construction and generate costs. In some cases, it can also cause injury to workers, which can demotivate and demoralise them.

The key findings of accident investigations highlight the need to review and enhance awareness and competency of parties involved in such incidents, particularly their roles and responsibilities in developing best practices related to workplace safety.

It is essential for those involved in the construction industry to be sensitive to such problems and



Accidents caused by poor safety management at construction sites are serious and must be addressed.

take measures to prevent accidents. Those in positions of authority must pay heed to standards in relation to occupational safety and health.

Laws and regulations cannot automatically ensure health and safety practices at construction sites. What we need is the adoption and implementation of safety measures by safety-conscious contractors supported by experienced and trained employees.

To avoid mishaps, attention and priority must be given to safety at the start of the project.

Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) management must be practiced at all levels of the construction industry, from the top management to the labourer. It is important for everyone to be committed and involved in OSH.

Although there are laws, the responsibility of implementing a safety system lies mainly with the main and sub-contractors. Those who create the risk and hazards are in better position to manage them.

OSH management is needed for all worksites to ensure high standards of safety and health at work. Employers must be aware of four fundamental factors of OSH management — corporate responsibility,

social and moral obligation, good business sense and legal obligation.

BBS can help organisations achieve safety excellence through knowledge of actionable indicators that are statistically valid and reliable.

BBS provides line management the opportunity to prove and demonstrate strong commitment to the core values of their organisation. When used with the company's integrated safety management, BBS can impact injury rates and total reportable cases.

Employers must commit to and understand issues of occupational safety and health as it is part of corporate responsibility. This cannot be achieved without understanding and cooperation between employers and workers. Occupational safety and health neither discriminates between gender, appearance or citizenship.

Local and foreign workers are entitled to the same rights. Accidents neither distinguish between victims nor the value of the project.

We are the ones who can recognise hazards at the workplace and can take action to prevent accidents. Workers need to be protected from hazards and risks.

Most employers and employees would agree that the ultimate aim of a safety initiative is a "total safety culture". However, this concept is rarely defined.

A total safety culture is a culture in which:

INDIVIDUALS hold safety as a "value" and not a priority, because our priorities change on an hourly basis;

INDIVIDUALS take responsibility for the safety of their co-workers in addition to themselves; and,

EMPLOYEES of all levels are willing and able to act on their sense of responsibility; they should go "beyond the call of duty".

The following are some requirements for any approach to safety and contributes to a total safety culture through a BBS approach:

A STRONG management commitment to maintaining and improving behavioural safety, witnessed in the regular acts of individuals at the management level.

RESPECTFUL, trusting, open communication between the management and employee groups about safety at the workplace.

AN OPEN, feedback culture among employees, which enables employees to consistently learn and grow.

COMMITMENT to improving the profile of and attitude to health and safety and increased employee engagement in safety.

AN EMPHASIS on safe and unsafe behaviour instead of depending on indicators such as safety statistics.

A STRONG, consistent and timely reaction to the discovery of unsafe acts, whether they result in injury or not.

TRANSPARENT and fair leadership from all, including managers, supervisors and owners.

BBS thus promotes awareness among all workers to consider in working towards an accident-free environment.

TAN SRI LEE LAM THYE, Chairman, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Malaysia

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