Construction Safety in Hong Kong

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Facts of HK Construction Industry

- Accounted for 3.2% of HK’s GDP (2004)
- Approximate 1,000 construction sites (2006)
- Employed over 52,000 site workers (2006)
  - 10% of total work force in HK’s Industries
Accident Statistics (1)

No. of Industrial Accident in HK Construction Industry

- 2001: 10,000
- 2002: 7,000
- 2003: 5,000
- 2004: 4,000
- 2005: 3,000
Accident Statistics (2)

No. of Fatality in HK Construction Industry

- 2001: 30
- 2002: 20
- 2003: 30
- 2004: 10
- 2005: 20
Accident Rate per 1,000 Employees

2001 2002 2003 2004 2005
Accident Statistics (4)

Construction Industry’s Accidents by Type (2005)

- Striking against or struck by moving object: 24%
- Slip, trip or fall on same level: 22%
- Injured whilst lifting or carrying: 18%
- Fall of person from height: 14%
- Striking against fixed or stationary object: 12%
- Contacted with moving machinery or object being machined: 10%
Facts of Accidents Statistics

- Rank 2nd for No. of Industrial Accidents in HK
  - 1st – Catering Industry
- Rank 1st for No. of Fatality in HK
- Rank 1st for Accident Rate per 1,000 employees in HK
Statutory Bodies for OSH

● Labour Department
● Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC)
  ● Promotion
  ● Consultancy Services
  ● Training
  ● Research
  ● Information
Mandatory Basic Safety Training (Green Card)
Safety Training Requirements (2)

- Confined space work
- Use of Equipment
  - Cranes and lifting appliances
  - Load-shifting equipment (Forklift truck, etc.)
  - Suspended working platform
  - Gas welding and flame cutting, etc.
Site Safety Personnel Requirement

- Registered Safety Officer (RSO)
  - For No. of workers $\geq 100$
- Safety Supervisor
  - For No. of workers $\geq 20$
Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Safety Management) Regulation

- Workers ≥ 50 or Contract Sum ≥ $100M
- Implement an SMS with 8 or 14 elements
- Periodic review or audit
Safety Management Elements

50 ~ 99 Workers
- Safety Policy
- Safety Organization
- Safety Training
- Safety Rules
- Safety Inspection
- PPE Program
- Accident Investigation
- Emergency Preparedness

≥ 100 Workers or ≥ 100 M Contract Sum
- Safety Committee
- Subcontractor Selection, Evaluation & Control
- Job Hazard Analysis
- Safety Promotion
- Process Control Program
- Health Surveillance
Safety Management Model

Diagram showing the steps of the safety management model:
1. Planning
2. Developing
3. Organizing
4. Implementing
5. Measuring
6. Auditing / reviewing

Each step is connected by feedback loops, indicating a cyclical process.
Legal Requirements for Construction Sites

- Construction Sites (safety) Regulations
  - Fall protection, excavation safety, lifting safety, etc.

- Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance & Regulations
  - Confined space safety, hearing protection, suspended working platform safety, etc.

- Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance & Regulations
  - Hygiene requirement, manual handling operation, etc.
Promotional Activities

- Construction Safety Award
  - Physical environment of site
  - Safety Management
- Construction Safety Campaign, etc.
Sponsorship Schemes for SME

- OSH Enhancement Scheme
- Safe Work at Confined Space
- Anchor Device
- Safe Ladder, etc.
What’s New? (1)

- Behavioral-based Safety
What’s New? (2)

- Safety Climate Index
A passenger hoist in a building construction site fell from height and all 12 workers within the hoist dead (2/6/1993)
An explosion in gas welding workshop of a foundation project company killed 3 workers (12/2/2000)
One worker dead and 16 workers injured in an bamboo scaffold collapse accident in facade maintenance site (9/12/2002)
A truss-out scaffold collapsed and two workers killed after fell from 6/F to ground (13/7/2005)
End