

DETERMINING FACTORS AFFECTING SAFETY PERFORMANCE PRACTICES OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS IN GAZA STRIP, PALESTINE

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Abstract

Construction industry is one of the most hazardous industries due its unique nature. Construction industry in Gaza strip (Palestine) suffered from poor safety performance which results in high rates of fatalities and injuries among workers. This paper aims to evaluate the safety performance and determine the factors affecting safety performance of construction sites in Gaza Strip, Palestine. This study was based on conducting questionnaire survey and targeted project managers, site engineers, and office engineers working for construction firms and consulting offices located in Gaza Strip (Palestine). 60 questionnaires were distributed randomly to the targeted respondents, 47 (78%) questionnaires were returned and analyzed. The findings reveals that the main factors affecting safety performance of construction contractors include pressurize workers to complete the job quickly and forgo safety checks; poor attitude of construction workers towards safety; Extensive use of subcontractors; company has no safety plan; and contractors almost don't enforce workers to follow safety procedures when performing tasks.

Keywords: Factors, Safety Performance, Practices, Construction Contractors, Gaza, Palestine.