Name

Instructor Name

Art 101

19November 2018

Letter for invitation

The construction industry is developing rapidly. With its rapid growth, the number of deaths and injuries is also growing. Although the industry is progressing quickly but on the other hand they are neglecting the safety measures. It is the right of every worker to have safe and healthy environment at workplace. Construction industry is contributing in economy but they are not focusing on the health and life of the workers. Safety at the workplace is an essential aspect that many organization of modern world disregard. The Fatal Four are the major causes of deaths and injuries in construction site. The Fatal Four are: Struck by the object, fall, caught-in/between, and electrocution. Every Fatal Four is equally damaging the lives of workers. The name struck by is self-explanatory in which people get hit by an object at construction site. Workers might be struck-by swinging object, falling object, and rolling object. The rate of death because of struck-by object comes after fall rate at construction site. Lack of understanding and knowledge about precautionary measure and usage of tools and equipments leads to great damage at workplace. Proper attention and commitment by staff can help in reducing accidents in the working environment.

According to recent statistics by OSHA, struck-by object injuries or death are 80 (8.2%) which is more than electrocution and caught-in/between. OSHA has introduced the Fatal Four. Injuries or death by struck-by object may include being struck by nail gun discharges, thrown debris etc. Workers should avoid areas where work is being performed overhead. These areas should be avoided to protect workers from being struck by falling tools or debris. Tools and materials should be used effectively when performing overhead work. Injuries caused by swinging objects especially occur when something forces the load to sway and materials are being mechanically lifted or when a worker is inside the crane. Awareness should be given to workers of areas where heavy equipment is being operated. Struck-by accidents often occur due to insufficient training on how to safely operate the machinery. It is necessary for employers to aware all workers of areas where there is greater struck-by accidents to occur and to limit employee access to those areas. It is the responsibility of OSHA to make sure that workers are getting training that can save them from any danger. They make sure that employees have safe environment at workplace. According to OSHA standards, “The employer shall permit only those employees qualified by training or experience to operate equipment and machinery(Moran).” This is very efficacious because it will help prevent struck-by object injuries or deaths. OSHA believes that employers should get safety training and they ensure that every employer is being trained according to the requirements.

Keeping the construction site safe and healthy is the responsibility of employers. OSHA is very much concern about how employers are making efforts to keep the work environment safe. OSHA has provided the long list of rules which they asked the employers to follow. Employers should provide every detail in such language that it can be understood by every employee. It is important to keep a record about injuries and death so that it will help in making strategies to avoid future accidents. “OSHA encourages all employers to adopt a safety and health program. Safety and health programs, known by a variety of names, are universal interventions that can substantially reduce the number and severity of workplace injuries(*Law and Regulations | Occupational Safety and Health Administration*).” Their main concern is the safety of the workers. Apart from employer’s responsibilities, workers also have some responsibilities for their own safety. The most important thing is to get training. Every employer should attend orientation when they first join any industry. “…majority of employees have to gain knowledge of risks of their work through their experience of work itself. Insufficient safety training between the employees is general root cause of accidents in the construction sites because they did not have the knowledge, education and skills to recognized potential hazards at site(Zin and Ismail).” They should keep everything in their mind and the things they do not understand should ask from the employers to avoid any danger. Safer working environment can also help employees to enhance their working ability because they will not feel scared.

Developing and advancing attitude of construction industry is giving a lot to the national economy but neglecting safety is something to be worried about. Research has provided a lot of information regarding the safety and health on construction area. It is important to know and understand the rules and laws provided by OSHA. OSHA is contributing to ensure the safety of workers. They put great emphasis on workers to get training before they join the construction industry. Struck-by object is very common accident that can occur on work site, as construction is the area where objects, equipments, and machines are found. Not only the employers but employee should take precautionary measure for their own safety. It is important to avoid areas where accident might happen. Death statistics provided by OSHA is alarming. If the death rate will keep going high, it will not only damage worker's life but it will bring great loss to the construction industry. Special safety tools and equipments should be used according to the work and work site area to stay away from any kind of danger. The workers should be trained enough to know the usage of different equipments and tools because using machines and tools wrongly can also bring death or severe injury. The research has provided detailed information about incidents, precautions, and how to keep one saved from dangers. This research will help future workers who want to be a part of construction industry.

*Law and Regulations | Occupational Safety and Health Administration*. https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs. Accessed 13 Oct. 2019.

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