

ABSTRACT

Title : Attitude of Construction Workers towards the Use of
Safety Helmets in Bangkok Metropolitan Areas.
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Nowadays Thailand has made a drastical progress in construction as a result of the increasing expansion of economy and social development. The trend has elevated from habitational one to become more industrialized such as high rise building, heavy industrial, seaboard etc. Then high technologies become more essential in making a time reduction and efficiency for those big projects.

Furthermore, there are a continuing rise of accident rate in construction industry. The highest number of injuries by part of body is head. Although helmets are provided at every construction site as a primary accident protection. Workers prefer not to wear any helmet by their own reason causing injuries, permanent disabilities and death.

And this is the main attractive idea for this research. The data used in this research were drawn from 267 (or 74.17%) out of 360 respondents who answered the questionnaire.

The majority of the respondents possess the following socioeconomic characteristics : male ; 21 – 25 years of age ; married ; graduated from a primary school ; having 2 – 4 years tenure ; skilled workers ; and belonging to companies of 100 – 500 workers.

The attitude towards the use of safety helmets are as follows :

- (1) Used to wear safety helmet ;
- (2) Reason given for not wearing the safety helmet is its obstruction to work ;
- (3) Principal reason given for wearing the safety helmet is to prevent an accident ;
- (4) Motive to wear safety helmet is to prevent accident in certain occasions ;
- (5) Have not witnessed accident caused by head injury or by falling matters while working ;
- (6) Have been persuaded by co-workers to wear the safety helmets ;
- (7) Have been persuaded by supervisors to wear the safety helmets ;
- (8) Have been informed about the existence of laws that one has to wear the safety helmet ;
- (9) Have never been inspected or advised from the government officials ;
- (10) Have never participated in any exhibition / received any information from the safety helmet public relations ;
- (11) The employer / company supplies the safety helmets ;
- (12) Have never bought the safety helmets for personal use ;
- (13) Have worn the safety helmets for about 0-6 months ;
- (14) Wore the safety helmet every time when working ;
- (15) Have inspected / adjusted the safety helmet before wearing ;
- (16) The problem caused by the safety helmet is its size ;

With regards to the relationship between socioeconomic characteristics and the attitudes towards the use of the safety helmet, it was found that the size of the industry, sex, age, marital status, tenure, education and types of work can be used as an explaining variable.

In the end, the researcher proposes that there should be more research on this topic because the findings of this research are very beneficial for the safety of the workers as well as for the cost reduction in personnel and the workers themselves may have a better working life and quality of life..