

Session E3.0

Title: Perceptions, Knowledge and Awareness of Risks

Moderator: Brianna Eiter

E3.1

Title: West Virginia logger hazard awareness and injury risk perception

Authors: Mark Fullen, Kimberly Rauscher, Wayne Lundstrom, Douglas Myers

Objectives: Loggers in West Virginia are more than twice as likely to be fatally injured on the job as loggers across the nation. Since 1999 West Virginia loggers and owners have been participating in a state-wide Logger Safety program that includes a certification program and requires safety training but the majority of the educational information produced by the program is provided only to the owners. This pilot research included the development a survey tool that was deployed to collect pilot data on hazard awareness and injury risk perception data of West Virginia loggers and owners to provide insight on how the workers and owners within this industry perceive risk.

Methods: Objectives included 1) to develop a survey instrument designed to assess the level of hazard awareness among loggers, including workers and owner/operators; 2) to explore the level of hazard awareness and injury risk perception among loggers and logger owner operators in West Virginia; 3) to explore differences in hazard awareness and injury risk perception; and 4) to use the survey results to identify the gaps in hazard awareness and injury risk perception in order to inform the development of future targeted interventions to reduce injury in the industry.

Results: Survey data shows that 57.73% of the owners and workers agree or strongly agree that the cause of logging accidents to be the fault of the injured worker and 82.9% of workers and 86.2% of owners agreed or strongly agreed that most on the job injuries are caused by worker carelessness. Of these same workers, 87.8% agreed or strongly agreed that they are confident in knowing the hazards of logging and how to protect themselves but (53.7%) agreed or strongly agreed that to get the job done sometimes a logger must take risks that endanger their safety. Finally, 61% of the owners agreed or strongly agreed that workers sometimes do not report injuries because they fear being blamed.

Conclusions: These preliminary results show evidence of a work culture that has not been educated or informed and has little to no experience in implementing an effective safety and health management system.

E3.2

Title: Exploring the state of health and safety management system performance measurement in mining organizations

Authors: Patrick Yorio, Emily Haas

In recent years, complex debates and arguments have been soundly articulated regarding the theoretical foundation of health and safety management system (HSMS) performance measurement and numerous categorizing frameworks for performance indicators have been proposed. The culmination of these efforts has seemingly begun to enhance a collective understanding of the theoretical nature of health and safety management performance measurement in organizations. Despite this enhanced understanding, however, there is still evidence of continuing debates and little consensus. The goal of the current research effort was to empirically explore the current state of HSMS performance measurement in mining organizations; the purpose being to determine if a strictly inductive approach could add value and insight into the ongoing approaches to HSMS performance measurement. Nine active health and safety executives, managers, and professionals were provided with 135 practices corresponding to 20 elements aligned within the HSMS cycle. Participants were asked to supply information as to how they (1) assess the performance of each practice in their organization, or (2) would assess each practice if it were an identified strategic imperative. Content analysis results suggest that all of the indicators provided could be categorized into *interventions*, *objective organizational and worker performance*, and *subjective perceptions*. A discussion of how these categories relate to previous theoretical discussions of indicator frameworks is provided along with suggestions for future research.

E3.3

Title: Knowledge of occupational safety among building construction workers in Lagos State

Authors: Olalekan Makinde, Abdul Hakkem Abiola

Objectives: The building construction workers are a peculiar group of workers. A high level of exposure to hazards that have been associated with their profession. These hazards have been reported in both developed and developing countries, but data in developing countries are still very sparse. This study aimed at determining the level of knowledge of occupational safety among this group of workers.

Methods: This was a cross sectional study with a total of 285 respondents, recruited in a multi-staged sampling. Interviewer administered questionnaires were used to elicit information like socio-demographic characteristics and knowledge of occupational hazard and safety measures. The data were analyzed using Epi-Info 3.5.1 statistical software.

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