

Introduction to Occupational Health and Safety

OSH Training Workshop: Chemicals as Work Hazards

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Session Outcome

At the end of the session, participants should be able to explain the basics of Occupational Health and Safety.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the session, participants should be able to:

1. Define what Occupational Health is.
2. Explain the basic principles of OHS.
3. Identify important provisions of the IRR of OSH Law 2018 (DO 198-18)

Aims of Occupational Health

1. **PROMOTION AND MAINTENANCE** of the highest degree of physical, mental and social well-being of workers in all occupations;
2. **PREVENTION** amongst workers of departures from health caused by their working conditions;
3. **PROTECTION** of workers in their employment from risks resulting from factors adverse to health;
4. **PLACING AND MAINTENANCE** of the worker in an occupational environment adapted to his physiological and psychological capabilities;

Occupational Health

“...and, to summarize, the adaptation of work to man and of each man to his job.”

- Joint ILO/WHO Committee on Occupational Health, 1950/1995

OSH Scenario in the Philippines

- Assuming total employment of 32.4 M workers in 2006, only around 2.2 M workers in medium and large scale enterprises enjoy effective OSH protection and services.
- About 90% of Philippine workers do not enjoy favorable working conditions.

Core OHS Principles (Alli, 2001)

1. All workers have rights.
2. Occupational health and safety policies must be established across levels.
3. There is need for consultation with the social partners.
4. Prevention and protection must be the aim of OHS policies and programs.
5. Information is vital for the development and implementation of effective policies and programs.

Core OHS Principles (Alli, 2001)

6. Education and training are vital components of safe, healthy working environments.
7. Occupational health services covering all workers should be established.
8. Compensation, rehabilitation and curative services must be made available to concerned workers.
9. Workers, employers and competent authorities have certain responsibilities.
10. Policies must be enforced.

Pertinent Provisions of DO 198-18

Employer's Duties

- Capacity building of all workers including mandatory trainings;
- Provision of OSH information;
- Use of devices/equipment with approved industry standards;
- Compliance with all the requirements of OSH Standards;
- Provision of appropriate DOLE tested and approved PPEs FREE of charge to the workers.

Workers' Rights

- To know the different types of hazards in the workplace;
- Be provided with training, education and orientation;
- To refuse unsafe work without threat or reprisal from the employer in cases of imminent danger); and
- To report accidents and dangerous occurrences to DOLE-ROs and other government agencies in the most convenient way.

OSH Programs (DO 198-18)

- Covered workplaces through the Health and Safety Committee (HSC), shall develop and implement a **suitable OSH Program following the DOLE-prescribed format.**
- OSH Program shall be **submitted and considered approved** upon stamped-received by concerned DOLE-Regional Office or Field Office.
- The HSC shall **review and evaluate the OSH Program at least once a year or as necessary.** A revised copy of the program shall be submitted to DOLE.
- A **suitable Construction Safety and Health Program specific** for each construction project shall be submitted to concerned DOLE-Regional Office or Field Office for its approval prior to start of the project.
- The total cost of implementing OSH Programs shall be an **integral part of the company's operations cost.**

Workers' Welfare Facilities

(DO 198-18)

1. Adequate supply of safe drinking water
2. Adequate sanitary and washing facilities
3. Suitable living accommodation as may be applicable
4. Separate sanitary, washing and sleeping quarters for all genders, as may be applicable
5. Lactation station
6. Ramps, railings and the like
7. Medical Facilities (treatment room/clinic)
8. Other workers' welfare facilities as may be prescribed by the OSH Standards and other issuances

What did you learn
today?

How will you apply
this in your
occupation?

THREE (3) KEY MESSAGES

1. Work should be adjusted to each worker.
2. All stakeholders should be involved in developing OHS interventions.
3. The employer, its employees, and DOLE have their respective rights, duties and responsibilities.

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Thank you for
participating.

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