THE EFFECT OF DIFFERENT INDUSTRIALIZED BUILDING SYSTEM (IBS) CONSTRUCTION METHODS COMPARED TO THE CONVENTIONAL METHOD ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (OSH) INDUSTRY RISKS IN CONSTRUCTION

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I hereby declare that the work in this project report is my own except for quotations and summaries which I have duly acknowledged. Student 6 HAMAD ARIFF BIN MOHD AMIN MC 31 1/2021 Date : TUN AMINAH TINI Supervisor PERP TS DR NOR HASLINDA BINTI ABAS 12021 31 Date Co -Supervisor: DR RAFIKULLAH BIN DERAMAN 31, 2021 1 Date

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To my beloved mother and father,

My wife, Puteri Natasya Mazenan

And my son, Mohamad Adam Rayyan

Thank you for always supporting and encouraging me to finish my study,

And always pray for my success.

Alhamdulillah.



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ABSTRACT

The construction industry is known for the hazardous physical working conditions and high risk of accidents because of the nature of the workplace activities. It is one of the most dangerous business sectors compared to the other industries. The accident cases in construction industry contribute to the rises statistics of accidents in Malaysia. Therefore, IBS construction has been suggested to replace the many initiatives that could be implemented to improve OSH performance due to frequent accidents as a substitute for the traditional construction methods. Improving the performance of the construction industry has pushed forward the need for innovation and adopting new construction methods and technologies in the industry. This study aims to analyze and validate the impact of major activities of the IBS construction method which are prefabricated steel framing system, prefabricated timber framing system and formwork system. This study involved a field observation to on-site that use these 3 types of IBS as a residential building construction method. The data was collected through interviews with the safety and health officers, other than observed the operations involved in each type of IBS method to determine the major activities and OSH risks associated throughout the construction process of the IBS. Next, the activities and the risks involved in each activity were tabulated before it was analyzed and validated with the competent professionals. The findings revealed that the major activities in the prefabricated timber framing system and formwork system have low risk compared to the conventional method. Meanwhile, majority of the activities involved in the prefabricated steel framing system has high risk compared to the conventional method. Moreover, 2 methods have introduced new activities which are prefabricated steel framing system (2 new activities) and prefabricated timber framing system (4 new activities). Therefore, this study offered a better understanding of the risk/hazard of IBS construction method and the effect the IBS towards safety and health.



ABSTRAK

Industri pembinaan terkenal kerana keadaan kerjanya yang berbahaya dan berisiko tinggi untuk berlakunya kemalangan. Ia adalah salah satu industri yang paling berbahaya berbanding dengan industri lain kerana aktiviti kerjanya. Kes kemalangan dalam industri pembinaan menyumbang kepada peningkatan statistik kemalangan yang berlaku di Malaysia. Oleh itu, pembinaan IBS telah dicadangkan sebagai pengganti kepada kaedah pembinaan tradisional sebagai inisiatif yang boleh dilaksanakan untuk meningkatkan prestasi OSH disebabkan oleh kemalangan yang kerap berlaku. Memperbaiki prestasi industri pembinaan telah mendorong kepada inovasi serta kaedah dan teknologi pembinaan baru dalam industri. Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk menganalisis dan mengesahkan impak aktiviti-aktiviti utama kaedah pembinaan IBS yang merupakan sistem prafabrikasi kerangka keluli, sistem prafabrikasi kerangka kayu dan sistem acuan. Kajian ini melibatkan pemerhatian lapangan di tapak pembinaan yang menggunakan 3 jenis IBS untuk pembinaan bangunan kediaman. Data tersebut dikumpulkan melalui temubual bersama pegawai keselamatan dan kesihatan, selain memerhatikan operasi yang terlibat dalam setiap jenis IBS untuk menentukan aktiviti utama dan risiko OSH yang terlibat sepanjang proses pembinaan IBS. Kemudian, aktiviti dan risiko yang terlibat dalam setiap aktiviti diterbitkan sebelum dianalisis dan disahkan oleh pakar bagi setiap kaedah pembinaan IBS. Hasil kajian mendapati bahawa, aktiviti utama dalam sistem prafabrikasi kerangka kayu dan sistem acuan mempunyai risiko yang rendah berbanding dengan kaedah konvensional. Sementara itu, sistem prafabrikasi keluli mempunyai risiko yang lebih tinggi berbanding kaedah konvensional. Tambahan lagi, 2 kaedah memperkenalkan aktiviti baru iaitu sistem prafabrikasi kerangka keluli (2 aktiviti) serta sistem prafabrikasi kerangka kayu (4 aktiviti baru). Oleh itu, kajian ini memberi pemahaman terhadap risiko/bahaya di dalam pembinaan IBS serta kesan IBS terhadap kesihatan dan keselamatan.



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LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

А	-	Additional risk
BOWEC	-	Building Operation of Work Engineering and Construction
С	-	More controllable
CIDB	-	Construction Industry Development Board Malaysia
CIMP	-	Construction Industry Master Plan
CITP	-	Construction Industry Transformation Programme
DOSH	-	Department of Occupational Safety and Health
FMA	-	Factories and Machinery Act
IBS	-	Industrialized Building System
LC	-	Less serious consequence
LL	-	Less likely More serious consequence
MC	-	More serious consequence
ML	110	More likely
OSHER P	03	Occupational Safety and Health
OSHA	-	Occupational Safety and Health Act
R	-	Risk removed
S	-	No change
SOCSO	-	Social Security Organization



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The construction industry is one of the important sectors in developing Malaysia to achieve strong economic growth and to chart its course (Asan & Akasah, 2015). It can contribute to our country's economy and able to improve our competitiveness. However, aligned with economic growth, the construction industry also contributed to the high accident rate. The construction industry is known for the hazardous physical working conditions and high risk of accidents. It is due to the nature of the workplace activities which is one of the most dangerous business sectors compared to the other industries (Hassanein & Hanna, 2008; Rahman, 2015).

Statistics from the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) records, stated that 6,562 cases of accidents were reported in the construction industry in 2019, compared to 3,345 cases in 2015. In shows an increment of 96.17% which indicated the serious problems in the construction industry. Including the unreported cases, the statistic would be much higher than become the concern in the industry. Despite this, the death average for five years of this industry in Malaysia is 94 employees per year from 2015 to 2019. The trend of fatality to construction workers has risen from 2015 until 2018 as shown in Figure 1.1. The trend of fatality decreased to 72 cases in 2019. However, the fatalities recorded are still high and unacceptable as compared to the other developed countries.



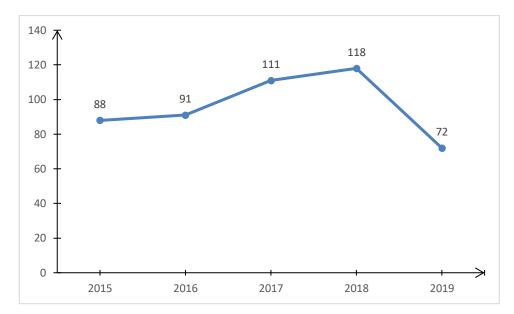


Figure 1.1: Fatality accidents from 2015 to 2019 in the construction industry (DOSH, 2020)

Accidents occur frequently on the construction site, and certain models of accident incidence or prevention have neglected to consider the types of accidents on the building site, although highlighting the various types of accidents that occur on the building site is prevalent (Ng *et al.*, 2012). Accidents are defined as unplanned or unintentional events that result in harm or loss to personnel, property, production or nearly anything that has some inherent value such as targets. Worldwide has identified the construction industry as one of the most hazardous industries and falls from height as a leading cause of fatalities in the construction industry (Hamid *et al.*, 2019). This is due to the current practices in the construction industry which often take place outdoors under conditions that are not advantageous to OSH.

IBS construction was suggested as a replacement for traditional construction methods due to frequent accidents, which could be implemented to improve OSH performance (CIDB, 2007, 2008). The Government of Malaysia is strongly supporting the adoption of IBS and facilitating a paradigm change in the building sector from a conventional to an industrialized approach because of this situation (Abas, 2015). This is demonstrated by the enactment of the Construction Industry Master Plan (CIMP) 2006-2015, which explicitly mentions IBS and its implementation through IBS Roadmaps. To date, the importance of IBS in improving construction industry is highlighted under the Construction Industry Transformation Programme (CITP) 2016-2020 (CITP, 2015). IBS offers better productivity, quality and safety, and can further



help towards a better construction industry, as well as enhance the global competitiveness Malaysian construction industry (Yusof, 2016).

The implementation of IBS has changed the nature of activities, which are different from traditional processes. In IBS, the process is industrialized by which components of a building are conceived, planned, fabricated, transported to and then erected on site (Junid, 1986). Even though several studies are indicating IBS can significantly reduce OSH risks in traditional construction (McKay, 2010). UK government studies like Egan (1998) described the IBS method as a tool for improving health and safety efficiency, but there is a continuing need to resolve the lack of information about the IBS method and its impacts. Awareness concerning the identification of workplace safety and health risks is required at the IBS system factory. Thus, this study aims to investigate the effect of IBS methods on construction OSH risk.

1.2 Problem statement



In Malaysia, safety performance in the construction industry has lagged behind most other industries as evidenced by its disproportionally high rate of accidents and is proven by the report produced by SOCSO Annual report. Statistics reveal between 4,500 and 5,000 cases of construction site accidents every year, with a further average of 80 and 90 fatalities per year (Foo, 2005). According to the Social Security Organization (SOCSO) report in 2000, the case fatality rate in the construction industry in Malaysia was more than 3 times of all other workplaces, 3.3% in the construction sector compared to all other workplaces of 1.1% (SOCSO, 2000). The latest statistic in 2019 indicates that among 4108 accidents reported in the construction cases resulted in a fatality while industry, 116 977 in permanent disabilities. Meanwhile, the number of fatalities recorded by DOSH (2016) indicated that there are 313 construction workers died due to accidents at the construction site in Malaysia from 2013 to 2015. This high accident and fatality rate has caused concern among industry players.

Some researchers suggest that IBS is safer than traditional in a way that the work location can be shifted to a lower hazard environment (Toole and Gambatese, 2008) and from the field to the factory which allows better control of the hazards

(Gibb, 1999; Toole and Gambatese, 2008). This is supported by McKay (2010) who found that off-site can significantly reduce OSH risks in traditional construction and Gangolelles et al. (2010) who found that the safety risk level of designing an in-situ concrete structure is twice that of the safety risk level of designing a precast (IBS) structure. The implementation of IBS in Malaysia is one of the initiatives of the industry to improve its poor OSH performance (Master Plan for Occupational Safety and Health in the Construction Industry 2005-2010). However, the extent of IBS impact upon safety and health in construction is still doubtful.

McKay (2010) has studied the OSH risk associated with IBS and found that IBS can significantly reduce OSH risk in traditional construction in the UK. However, there is no real investigation of the activities and risks between IBS and conventional construction methods and strategies. Therefore, this study explores how IBS impacts on safety and health by a detailed study of the activities and risks between IBS and conventional construction methods, based on McKay's (2010) method of study.



1.3 Objectives of study

The objectives of this study are:

- i. To identify the risk of the IBS construction process;
- ii. To analyze the risk between conventional and IBS construction methods; and

TUNKU TUN AMINAH

iii. To validate the risk of Industrialized Building System (IBS) methods

1.4 Scopes of study

This study covers 3 types of IBS which are prefabricated steel framing system, prefabricated timber framing system and formwork system and focused on the major activities of the construction process in IBS residential buildings which only cover for structure and building envelope. Data has been collected during on-going construction projects, which used the selected construction approaches in order to observe the process involved and to identify the associated OSH risks. The collection of data starts with field observation on three different IBS system construction sites. During the observation, a significant amount of time has been spent directly observing the

activities and process operations of each case. Site visits have been undertaken to directly observe and document the identified tasks, workstations, equipment and tools in use.

1.5 Significance of study

The Malaysian construction industry has a poor record in OSH performance, as evidenced by the high number of accidents sustained. IBS is suggested as one of the initiatives to improve OSH performance, as it offers process change from traditional to more factory-based methods. This study intends to compare the risk between a conventional method and industrialized building system method that can assess the OSH risks for different construction approaches in the IBS system.

Besides, since the construction industry in Malaysia is actively implementing IBS as an alternative to the traditional construction method, addressing the issue of health and safety in IBS construction is vital because it will affect the industry. This study provides a robust method for comparing OSH risks for different construction approaches which cover the scope of Malaysia's construction industry.



PEKroo

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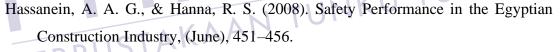
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