

1.0 Introduction

The construction industry is known to have poor safety records compared to other industries in Hong Kong. In 1998, there was a total of six numbers of work stoppages and 1,377 numbers of lost of work days due to accidents in the construction industry. These figures account for 75% of the overall number of work stoppages and 97 % of the overall lost of work days by all industries in Hong Kong (Census and Statistics Department, 1999).

One of the measures in enhancing good safety practice is by providing good management and site supervision at the mid level supervisory staff. It is attempted in this study to evaluate the increasing important roles of construction site technicians in promoting safety standards and culture, and to evaluate whether or not the site technicians have acquired the required training in performing their duties. The aim of the study is to identify deficiency, if any, of the current conditions and to make recommendations for improvement.

The study involves conducting a questionnaire survey on site technicians. The samples to be surveyed include such positions as foreman, work supervisor, assistant site agent, site surveyor, site coordinator, safety supervisor and any other operative staff working at mid supervisory level on construction sites.