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Paper

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## Importance of Occupational Health and Safety Issue in Engineering Education

Especially in developing countries, the absence of consciousness about work safety, lack of inspection by the state, uneducation of labor about the subject and such reasons force engineers to be educated about occupational health and safety in the university.

In this paper, the success level of civil engineers about the occupational health and safety issue has been evaluated, the necessity of health and safety education depending on the research and survey results has been explained and discussed.

These are some of the findings taking place in the paper :

A survey has been carried out to 60 civil engineers working as site chief and most of them have been found out to be inadequate about the occupational health and safety. The relation of this situation with the lack of education has been discussed.

Reports belonging to 830 work accidents which are subject to trial have been evaluated, fault ratio of civil engineers in these cases and the reasons have been determined and the relation with the lack of education has been discussed.

Examples have been given about the work accidents that the civil engineers have faced themselves and the relation of this situation with the lack of education has been discussed.

Dr. Ugur Mungen, one of the authors, has lived a work accident as an engineer in his first work year (1973). After the accident he has felt disappointed that he had no knowledge about occupational health and safety and realized that the absence of education about this subject was a major deficiency.

Later he has started his Ph.D. and prepared his thesis "Analysis of Work Accidents in Turkish Construction Industry and Occupational Health and Safety Problems" after long years of research. He has also started the course named "Occupational Health and Safety" in 1994. It is one of the most two chosen lectures.

Surveys show that 70% of the students have chosen the course because of the importance of the subject in professional life. 14% because of the convenience of the course to their schedules, 12% assuming the course to be easy and 4% because of different reasons.

The content of the course has been introduced and the favorite subjects of the students and their expectations have been explained and discussed.

The success level of civil engineers about the subject who have taken this course and who have not has been evaluated and compared with each other.