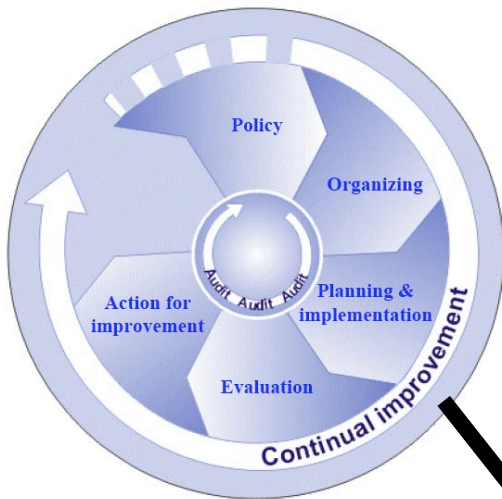


**International Labour Office Training Programmes  
Occupational Safety & Health for the Construction Industry**

**Construction OS&H**

*A training programme for construction companies  
(‘contractors’)*



**Model  
modular  
course**

**A systematic programme for improving  
procedures and practices  
for the benefit of all who participate  
in this major and socially important industry**

**“The primary goal of the ILO  
today is to promote  
opportunities for women and  
men to obtain decent and  
productive work, in  
conditions of freedom, equity,  
security and human dignity.”**

*(Juan Somavia, ILO Director-General)*



## **Construction OS&H**

### ***A modular training course for construction companies***

#### **INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE**

##### **PREFACE**

“In construction at least 108 000 workers are killed on site every year, that figure represents 30 per cent of all fatal injuries. That is one person dying every five minutes because of bad, and illegal, working conditions. The construction industry has a deservedly notorious reputation as being dirty, difficult and dangerous.

Workers are killed, injured and made sick whilst carrying out routine jobs. The hazards are well known and so are the prevention measures. The overwhelming majority of "accidents" are absolutely predictable and preventable. They are caused by failure to manage risks, or by straightforward negligence on the part of the employer.”

This programme is based on the International Labour Organisation (ILO)’s “Decent work for all” programme:

“Work is central to people's well-being. In addition to providing income, work can pave the way for broader social and economic advancement, strengthening individuals, their families and communities. Such progress, however, hinges on work that is decent. Decent work sums up the aspirations of people in their working lives.”

“The primary goal of the ILO today is to promote opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work, in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity.”

The programme has been produced by the ILO and Building and Woodworkers International (BWI) working in partnership. The principal authors were Dr Richard Neale, Emeritus Professor of Construction Management, University of Glamorgan, Wales, UK; and Fiona Murie, Director, Occupational Health and Safety, and Construction Coordinator, BWI, Geneva.

##### **OVERALL AIM**

The overall aim of this programme is to provide a comprehensive review of the duties of construction companies and the construction processes they use which will provide a safe and healthy working environment for all involved in their construction projects, and to persuade those who participate in the programme to implement what they have learned when they return to their organisations.

## **OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Give a persuasive presentation to major sub-contractors employed by construction companies for their projects to persuade them to adopt good occupational safety and health practices and procedures
- Propose a project management organisation for a given project to ensure that all those involved in the project will be in a safe and healthy environment
- Draft an Occupational Safety and Health (OS&H) Policy for a specific organisation
- Draft an outline for a comprehensive OS&H management system for a specific organisation
- Identify the main hazards and risks for a specific project
- List the main items for an OS&H Policy for a specific construction project
- List the main items for an OS&H Plan for a specific project
- Write an outline specification for an OS&H management system for a specific project
- Make a general plan for the layout and welfare facilities for a specific project
- Identify the personal protective equipment that would be needed for a specific workplace and construction process
- Identify the main hazards that may arise from the use of a specific commonly used item of plant or equipment and explain how to minimise the risks that may arise
- Identify the main hazards that may arise from the use of a specific commonly construction process and explain how to minimise the risks

## **THE MODULAR COURSE**

This is a comprehensive course. It will be series of half-day four-hour sessions, scheduled once a week, for 17 weeks. During these sessions you will receive lectures, participate in discussions and exercises and, at the end, you will apply your knowledge to a real construction project.

You will be given a Handbook at the end of the programme, which summarises the programme content, to help you to apply the knowledge in this programme in your own organisation.

## Modular course structure

This course has a modular structure, in which the modules may be seen as the ‘building blocks’ of the information provided. The modules are listed below.

Week No	Module code	MODULE SETS & TITLES	Duration (Hours)
1	0	Introduction	2
		<b>Fundamental modules</b>	
1	A	Fundamental principles	2
2	B	General duties	4
3	C	Safe and healthy working environment	4
4	D	Workers’ perspectives	4
		<b>Project management modules</b>	
5	E	Principles of safe project management	4
6	F	Planning and control for OS&H	4
7	G	Processes and systems	4
8	H	Welfare and project site	4
		<b>Technical modules</b>	
9	I	Personal protective clothing and equipment	4
10	J	General plant and equipment	4
11	K	Vertical movement	4
12	L	Horizontal movement	4
13	M	Working at or below ground level	4
14	N	Working at height	4
		<b>Integration and concluding modules</b>	
15	O	Project: Introduction and start work	4
16	O	Project: complete, present & discuss	4
17	P	Conclusion	2
		Total formal programme time	66

Modules A-D explain the fundamental issues and principles of project occupational safety and health required by today’s construction industry.

Modules E-H explain OS&H managerial processes and procedures, and how these should be applied to the practical running of a safe and healthy project.

Modules I-N provide the technical knowledge that construction companies and their employees require in order to understand construction operations so that they can plan and manage them accordingly.

Module O is a major assignment, in which the knowledge gained through modules A-N is applied to a realistic construction project.

This may seem like a long course, but only a few of the participants will do all of it (for example, safety officers), and others will only take those parts which are suitable for their jobs and seniority. To facilitate this, the course has, therefore, been divided in to the three distinct sections shown, although all participants will be expected to attend the modules O & P.

All the modules are summarised in the Course Handbook.