

DELTA STATE SUSTAINABLE URBAN RURAL WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROGRAMME

TRAINING REPORT

ON

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING FOR DESWACO CONTRACTORS AND STAFF

Date : 18th August, 2023
Venue: DESWACO Conference Hall
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Executive Summary

The Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) training was conducted on August 18th at DESWACO's Conference Hall by the Environment and Social unit of the SURWASH SPIU. The primary goal of the training was to enhance participants' understanding of key OHS principles, safety best practices, and the importance of maintaining a secure work environment.

The training successfully achieved its objectives by covering a range of essential topics, including hazard identification, safe work practices, emergency response procedures, accident reporting, worker's grievance redress mechanisms and personal protective equipment usage. Through a combination of interactive presentations, group discussions, and hands-on exercises, participants were engaged in active learning and knowledge sharing.

The training witnessed enthusiastic participant engagement, with attendees actively participating in discussions, asking questions, and sharing their insights on OHS-related matters. This active involvement demonstrated their commitment to workplace safety and their willingness to apply the knowledge gained during the training to their daily tasks during construction.

Participants provided positive feedback on the training content, citing its practical relevance and the clarity of presentation materials. Their suggestions for improvement primarily revolved around incorporating real-life scenarios to further enhance the practicality of the training.

Overall, the OHS training was a valuable opportunity to empower participants with the knowledge and skills needed to contribute to a safer and healthier work environment.

For detailed information on the training content, activities, participant engagement, and outcomes, please refer to the subsequent sections of this report.

1.0 Introduction

This report serves as a comprehensive overview of the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) training conducted on August 18th at DESWACO's Conference Hall by the Environment and Social unit of the SURWASH SPIU. The training was strategically designed to instill vital safety principles in participants, primarily hired contractors, and to ensure that all civil works carried out align with the stringent safety policy of the hiring organization; Delta State Urban Water Corporation.

As part of DESWACO and SURWASH's unwavering commitment to maintaining the highest safety standards, this specialized OHS training was initiated with the precise goal of equipping our contracted participants with the knowledge, skills, and mindset essential for the safe execution of civil works.

The training's core objectives were centered around fostering a profound understanding of OHS principles, hazard identification, risk mitigation, and the meticulous implementation of safety protocols during various stages of civil projects. Through this training, participants were empowered to make conscious choices that prioritize safety without compromising the quality and efficiency of their work.

This report will delve into the overarching training objectives, the specifics of the training content, the innovative methodologies employed to engage participants, the outcomes witnessed, and potential avenues for future improvements.

2.0 Training Objectives:

The main objectives of the OHS training program were as follows:

- To educate participants about the importance of occupational health and safety in the workplace.
- To enhance participants' understanding of common workplace hazards and how to mitigate them.
- To equip participants with practical skills and knowledge related to personal protective equipment (PPE) usage.
- Prevent accidents by managing and sustaining safety effectively in all ramifications in our project sites
- Accident reporting
- To raise awareness about emergency response procedures and first aid measures.
- To promote a safety-conscious culture among participants, encouraging them to proactively identify and report potential hazards.
- Operating a Workers grievance redress mechanism

3.0 Training Content:

The training program covered a range of topics relevant to occupational health and safety. The main content areas included:

Introduction to OHS: An overview of OHS principles, terms and definitions in OHS, and the role of OHS in creating a safe work environment.

Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment: In-depth discussion on identifying workplace hazards, assessing their risks, and implementing appropriate control measures.

Types of Hazards: In-depth exploration of various types of workplace hazards, including:

- Physical hazards (e.g., noise, radiation, vibration).
- Chemical hazards (e.g., toxic substances, flammable materials).
- Biological hazards (e.g., viruses, bacteria).
- Ergonomic hazards (e.g., poor workstation setup, repetitive motions).
- Psychosocial hazards (e.g., stress, harassment).
- Mechanical hazards (e.g., moving machinery parts, falling objects).

Hierarchy of controls: A detailed explanation of the hierarchy of control, which prioritizes different strategies for managing workplace hazards. Participants learned about eliminating hazards, substituting dangerous processes or materials, implementing engineering controls, introducing administrative controls, and using personal protective equipment (PPE) as the last line of defense.

Control Measures and Safe work practices

Manual Handling (loading & offloading): Practical tips for handling heavy objects on site to prevent musculoskeletal disorders and improve overall comfort during work.

Fire prevention and Control: Comprehensive coverage of fire safety measures, including:

- Identifying fire hazards and flammable materials in the workplace.
- Fire prevention strategies, such as proper storage of chemicals and maintaining electrical systems.
- Fire evacuation procedures, including escape routes and assembly points.
- Firefighting equipment usage and hands-on practice (if applicable).
- Importance of fire drills to ensure everyone is familiar with evacuation procedures.

Safe Equipment Use: Guidelines on safely operating tools and machinery, emphasizing the importance of following manufacturer instructions and using safety guards.

Electrical Safety: Insights into electrical hazards, safe practices around electrical equipment, and the importance of proper grounding and insulation.

Working at Heights: Thorough explanation of fall protection measures, including the proper use of harnesses, guardrails, and secure anchor points.

Health and Wellness: Addressing the significance of maintaining overall well-being, including physical health and mental well-being, both at work and in personal life.

Incident Reporting and Investigation: Overview of the process for reporting incidents and near misses, followed by discussion on how incident investigations are conducted to prevent future occurrences.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Detailed guidance on selecting, using, and maintaining different types of PPE, including hard hats, gloves, safety glasses, and respiratory protection.

Emergency Response Procedures: Comprehensive coverage of emergency response procedures, including evacuation protocols, first aid basics, and handling various emergency situations such as fires, chemical spills, and medical incidents.

Worker's Grievance redress Mechanism: Explanation of the established process for workers to report OHS concerns, including:

- Anonymous reporting options to encourage open communication.
- Designated OHS officer to receive and address grievances.
- Assurance of confidentiality to ensure workers feel safe reporting concerns.
- Timely response and transparent communication throughout the resolution process.

These content areas were delivered through a combination of presentations, interactive discussions, and hands-on exercises to ensure that participants gained a practical understanding of OHS concepts.

4.0 Training Activities

During the OHS training program, a variety of interactive and engaging activities were incorporated to enhance participants' understanding of key concepts and encourage active participation. These activities were carefully designed to promote hands-on learning and foster a deeper connection with the training material.

Safety Walkthroughs:

Incorporating a practical element, participants were guided on safety walkthroughs within the training venue. They were encouraged to identify potential hazards, unsafe conditions, and safe practices in their surroundings. Participants then deployed strategies to avoid exposure to identified hazards. This hands-on approach allowed participants to apply their newly acquired knowledge in a real-life environment.

Case Studies and Group Discussions:

Participants were divided into small groups to analyze real-life case studies related to workplace hazards within an identified job task of their choosing. Each group was tasked with Breaking down the identified job tasks into various steps and identifying potential hazards in each step, in addition to proposing preventive or control measures to tackle the hazard. Group discussions followed, allowing participants to share their insights and solutions with the entire training cohort.

5.0 Participant Engagement:

During the OHS training session, participants exhibited a high level of engagement and active contribution. The interactive nature of the training activities encouraged discussions and knowledge sharing among the participants. Some key points regarding participant engagement are as follows:

Questioning and Clarifications: Participants consistently asked relevant questions to seek clarifications and deepen their understanding of the presented concepts. These questions often led to insightful discussions that enhanced the overall learning experience.

Case Study Analysis: During the case study analysis activity, participants demonstrated strong engagement by working collaboratively in groups. They applied their knowledge to real-life scenarios, contributing diverse perspectives and proposing effective solutions.

Group Activities: The Interactive group activity, such as the hazard identification exercise and safety scenario role-playing, facilitated meaningful interactions among participants. They collaborated to identify potential hazards and discuss preventive measures, fostering a sense of teamwork.

6.0 Training Outcomes:

The following outcomes were observed as a result of the training:

- Participants gained practical skills related to hazard identification, proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE), emergency response procedures, and safe equipment operation. Hands-on exercises allowed participants to apply their learning in realistic scenarios.
- Participants highlighted their commitment to reporting near misses and potential hazards to their supervisors, contributing to a proactive safety culture.
- Participants highlighted their commitment to operating a grievance mechanism for workers on site.
- Participants reported increased confidence in their ability to identify and address safety risks in their work environment.
- Knowledge enhancement of participants on OHS principles and best practices.

7.0 Recommendations

Based on the outcomes of the OHS training and the feedback received from participants, the following recommendations are made to enhance the effectiveness and impact of future training programs:

Scenario-Based Learning: Introduce scenario-based learning modules that simulate real workplace situations, enabling participants to apply their knowledge and problem-solving skills to realistic scenarios.

Regular Refreshers: Implement periodic refresher training sessions to reinforce key OHS concepts, ensure that participants retain the knowledge over time, and adapt to any changes in regulations.

8.0 Conclusion

In conclusion, the conducted OHS training program proved to be an informative and engaging initiative that aimed to empower participants with essential knowledge and skills for maintaining a safe and healthy work environment. The training fostered active participation, encouraging discussions, and an exchange of ideas among participants.

The feedback received from participants reflects their appreciation for the training content and its practical applicability to their daily work routines. The training sessions successfully highlighted the importance of adhering to OHS guidelines to ensure the well-being of both employees and the organization.

ATTENDANCE OF PARTICIPANTS

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING CONTRACTOR AND WORKERS

TITLE:

SURWASH

Date: 14/05/2023 Venue: DONATO CONFERENCE HALL

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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING

TITLE:

DESUWACO STAFF

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Venue:

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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING

DESUWACO STAFF

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TITLE:

Date: 18/08/2023 Venue: DESUWACO CONFERENCE HALL

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