

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY HAZARDS: MALAYSIA 2026 by Shereen Montero

**Building a Culture of Prevention and Legal
Compliance under OSHA 2022**

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this session, participants will be able to identify high-risk construction activities, understand the new regulatory requirements of the OSHA (Amendment) Act 2022, and implement site-specific controls to mitigate the top five hazard categories.



NATIONAL SAFETY PERFORMANCE

88

Fatalities 2023
(Highest Industry)

4,409

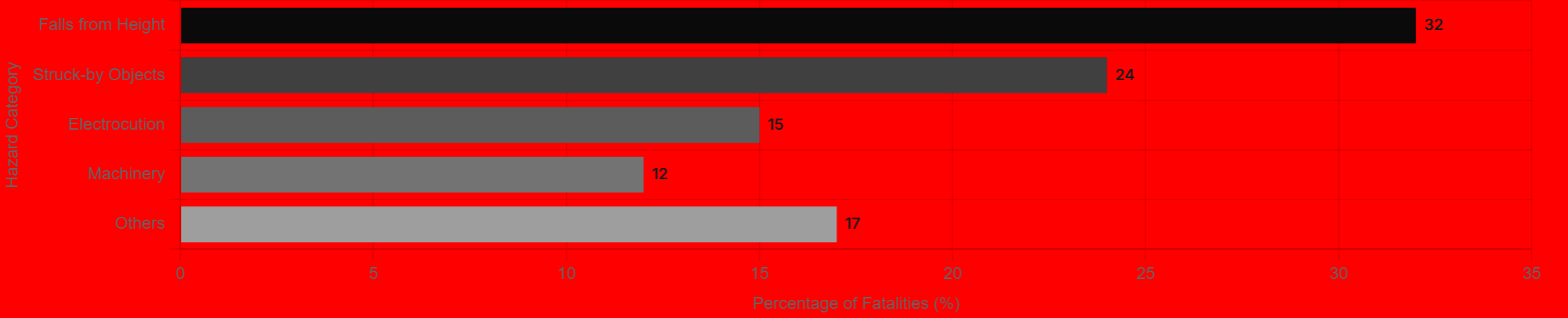
Workplace Accidents
(Jan–May 2024)

32%

Falls from Height
Primary Killer

89.8%

Lack of Supervision
Fatal Factor 2026



MALAYSIAN REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

OSHA (AMENDMENT) ACT 2022

- Amending OSHA 1994: Modernizing safety standards.
- FMA 1967 Repealed: Machinery safety now under OSHA.
- RM500k Penalty: Max fine increased 10x for breaches.
- OSH Coordinator: Mandatory for workplaces with 5+ employees.

CDM REGULATIONS 2024

- Design Phase Mandate: Safety integrated by designers.
- Principal Duty: Client/Owner ensures site-wide safety.
- OSH Master Plan: Aligned with National strategy 2021–2025.
- Soft Enforcement: Transitions to full mandate by Jan 2027.

TOP FIVE HAZARD CATEGORIES

Critical risk identification and engineering controls for
site operations.

FALLS FROM HEIGHT

Accounting for 32% of all construction deaths in Malaysia, falls occur from ladders, scaffolding, and unprotected edges. Prevention requires guardrails, safety nets, and fall arrest systems.

HIERARCHY OF CONTROL:

1. ELIMINATE: Use ground-level work.
2. PREVENT: Collective guardrails.
3. MINIMIZE: Full-body harness + lanyard.



STRUCK-BY OBJECTS

FALLING TOOLS

Unsecured equipment falling from height. Solution: Toe boards and tethered tools.

VEHICLE IMPACT

Moving cranes or forklifts striking workers. Solution: Traffic marshals and zone barriers.

FLYING DEBRIS

Shrapnel from power tools. Solution: Eye protection and debris shielding.



ELECTROCUTION RISK

Exposed wiring and overhead power lines are high-voltage killers. Water on sites increases conductivity significantly.

ESSENTIAL CONTROLS:

- Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) procedures.
- Underground cable detection before digging.
- Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI).
- Inspections of all temporary wiring.

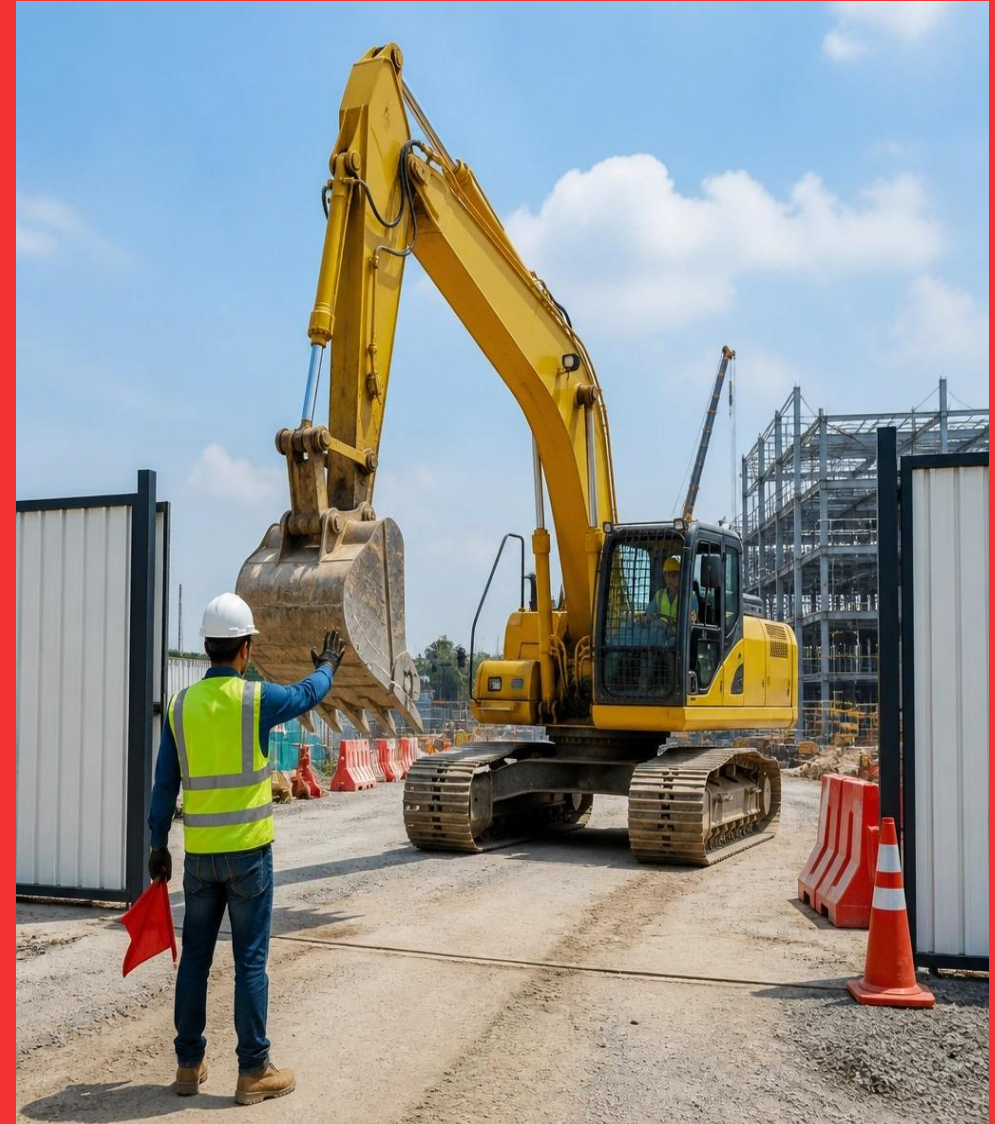


MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT

Heavy machinery like excavators and cranes are essential but high-risk. Under the 2024 regulations, the old Certificate of Fitness (CF) system has been integrated into a more comprehensive OSHA framework for plant and machinery.

PREVENTION PROTOCOLS:

- Daily pre-operation checks.
- Qualified operators with valid licenses.
- Barrier zones to prevent worker entry.
- Emergency stop buttons visible and tested.



CONFINED SPACE HAZARDS

ICOP 2010 COMPLIANCE

Governed by the Industry Code of Practice for Safe Working in a Confined Space 2010. Hazards include toxic gas, oxygen deficiency, and engulfment risks.

MANDATORY STEPS:

- Entry Permit issuance.
- Gas testing by AGES.
- Forced ventilation.
- Standby person on duty.



PREVENTION AND CONTROL MEASURES

89.8%

FATAL ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY
LACK OF SUPERVISION

85.9%

FATAL ACCIDENTS LINKED TO
FAILURE TO USE PPE



SAFETY IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Under OSHA 2022, every principal, contractor, and employee must ensure a safe site. Report hazards, use your PPE, and exercise your right to remove yourself from danger.

THANK YOU