

Temporary Works Safety Awareness by Shereen Montero

Malaysian Construction Industry Safety Guidelines · 2026 Edition

Training Agenda and Objectives

This session provides critical safety knowledge for managing temporary structures on site. We aim to reduce the high fatality rates in the Malaysian construction sector through strict regulatory compliance and risk control.

1. Key Hazards Identification
2. Legal & Regulatory Framework
3. Common Temporary Works Types
4. HIRARC & Permit-to-Work
5. Roles & Responsibilities
6. Prevention & Control Measures
7. Emergency Response Plans
8. Local Case Studies (Malaysia)

Key Hazards of Temporary Works

Structural Collapse

Failure of falsework or formwork due to overloading, poor design, or inadequate bracing.

Falls from Height

Working on scaffolds or ladders without edge protection or proper fall arrest systems.

Falling Objects

Debris or tools falling from platforms onto workers below due to lack of toe-boards.

Overturning Equipment

Unstable ground or poor outrigger deployment leading to machinery tipping over.

Malaysian Legal Framework 2026

As of June 1, 2024, the OSHA (Amendment) Act 2022 is the primary legislation. The Factories and Machinery Act (FMA) 1967 has been repealed and integrated into OSHA to streamline safety standards across all workplaces in Malaysia.

- BOWEC 1986: Specific safety regulations for Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction.
- CDM 2024: Construction Work (Design & Management) Regulations focus on Safety-by-Design.
- JKR OSH Specifications 2025: Mandatory OSH requirements for all government-



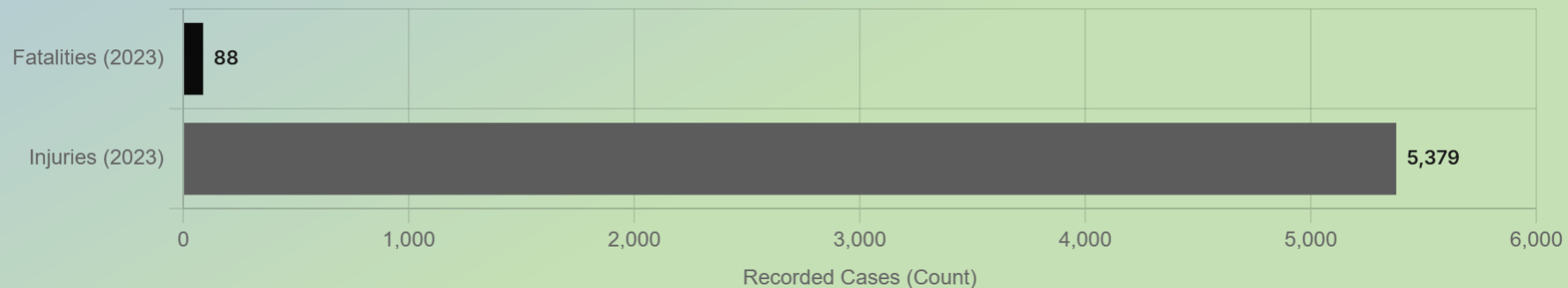
The Cost of Non-Compliance

88

Construction Deaths (2023)
Leading contributor to workplace fatalities.

RM500K

Maximum Fine (OSHA 2022)
Increased penalties for safety breaches.



Common Types of Temporary Works

Falsework & Formwork

Support systems to hold concrete until it achieves self-support.

Scaffolding Systems

Temporary platforms for access and safety during construction.

Shoring & Excavation

Supports to prevent trench collapse and ground movement.

Hoarding & Fencing

Protective barriers between construction zones and the public.



HIRARC and Permit-to-Work (PTW)

Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment, and Risk Control (HIRARC) is the standard DOSH methodology. Every high-risk temporary work activity must be authorized via a formal Permit-to-Work.

PTW Checklist Items:

- Approved Design Drawings
- Competent Person Endorsement
- Verification of Ground Conditions
- Fall Protection Readiness
- Weather Monitoring Plan
- Rescue Team Availability

Roles and Responsibilities

Clear delegation is required under JKR and CIDB standards. A Professional Engineer (P.E.) must be appointed for complex designs.

Appointed Person (P.E.)
Responsible for the design, endorsement, and overall management of temporary works.

Competent Person
Inspects and certifies scaffolds or falsework before use.

Site Supervisor
Ensures workers follow the Method Statement and uses correct PPE.

Prevention and Control Measures

Hierarchy of Control

Eliminate risks by design (CDM 2024), followed by engineering controls like guardrails and debris netting.

Loading Management

Strict adherence to safe working loads (SWL) and regular inspections by a Competent Person.

Administrative Controls

Mandatory safety briefings, Toolbox Talks, and appointment of OSH Coordinators for sites with >5 staff.

PPE Enforcement

Mandatory use of double-lanyard harnesses, industrial safety helmets, and non-slip boots in work zones.

Emergency Response and Rescue Plans

Sites must have a dedicated Emergency Response Team (ERT) capable of rapid rescue from height or excavation. Standard operating procedures must be clearly displayed and regularly drilled.

- Designated First Aiders on Site
- Rescue Kits (Harness/Tripods)
- Emergency Contact List
- Evacuation Route Map
- Monthly ERT Drills



Case Study: Selangor Crane Incident 2025

In April 2025, DOSH issued a significant stop-work order following a crane incident in Selangor. Investigations revealed failure in temporary supports and inadequate risk assessment of ground conditions.

Key Lessons Learned:

1. Design Verification: Design must account for peak loads.
2. Inspection Intervals: Daily checks for structural integrity.
3. Stop-Work Authority: Empowering workers to stop unsafe acts.
4. Regulatory Compliance: Following JKR OSH Specifications 2025 strictly.

Safety First, Always.

Ensure every permit is signed and every support is inspected.
Protect your team. Comply with OSHA 2022.

THANK YOU