



CONSTRUCTION SITE SAFETY GUIDELINES
THE MONA CAMPUS OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

The attention of Contractors executing works on behalf of the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies is drawn to the Guidelines outlined in this document.

Prior to execution, Contractors are required to submit the necessary information in respect to their plans and procedure for the area outlined.

ELECTRICAL POWER

There must be in place an adequate method of handling stored electrical energy. An efficient LOCK-OUT/TAG-OUT plan is required.

FALL PROTECTION

The primary causes of accidents on Construction Sites are SLIPS, TRIPS and FALLS. The outline of a Fall Protection programme is required. The programme must include issues such as HARNESSING and ANCHORING.

SCAFFOLDS

Scaffolds are to be inspected and certified by the Ministry of Labour (Industrial Safety Unit).

CONFINED SPACE ENTRY

If persons will be required to enter and operate in Confined Spaces, there must be in place a suitable programme; complete with rescue equipment and crew.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

All persons operating within the confines of the Construction Site are required to be suitably equipped with PPE based on the potential or real hazard. As a basic requirement HEAD and FOOT protection are required for all. Depending on the job/task to be performed by the worker, there may be a requirement for HAND, BACK, FULL BODY, EYE/FACE and HEARING protection.

WELDING, CUTTING AND BRAZING

The safety programme established for workers who will be engaged in these activities should include OPERATIONAL TRAINING, USE OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT and SAFETY/EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.

MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS

One of the challenges on an active Construction Site is to balance the activities of motorized equipment, pedestrian and static property; have them all in production without negatively impacting each other.

There is the need for an operations plan for motorized equipment. This plan should include the qualification of operators, routing, access control and visibility.

ACCIDENT REPORTING/RECORD KEEPING

There are legal requirement for the reporting of accidents. An accident reporting and investigating procedure must be clearly established.

TRENCHING AND EXCAVATION

Systems must be established to prevent persons and equipment from becoming casualty of excavated areas. This must be documented.

CRANES, HOISTS AND ELEVATORS

The use of cranes, hoists and elevators bring into focus new hazards and hence the requirement for set guidelines for their usage.

FIRE SAFETY PLAN

The risk of the outbreak of fire is ever present on a Construction Site. There is therefore a need for the site to have in place the following;

- Fire Prevention Plan
- Fire Detection and Alarm Plan
- Fire Suppression Plan; complemented by equipment

HURRICANE SAFETY PLAN

A Construction Site caught in a Hurricane can spell grave problems, not just for itself but also for neighboring facilities. The effect on incomplete structures, temporary building materials and make-shift facilities can be devastating. Loose debris on a site can become missiles, resulting in injury to people and damage structures near and far. Materials such as sand, gravel and dirt, if not controlled, could compromise our drainage system.

The project will require a Hurricane Safety Plan.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

The Construction Site can at any time be confronted with an EMERGENCY SITUATION. This can take any form; a medical emergency, structural failure of the facility, fire, violence/threat of violence etc.

The project will require an Emergency Response Plan which should take into consideration the potential threat and the intended response to the said threat.

HAZARDOUS COMMUNICATION (HAZCOM)

There is a requirement for the use of the internationally recognized HAZCOM system.

WORKER EDUCATION

For there to be any successful safety programme there must be an ongoing SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAMME for workers.

HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAMME

Based on the nature of the activities being conducted, the amount of workers involved, the hazards and potential hazards which exist, there is a requirement for there to be a full HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAMME documented and available for the site.

JAMAICA'S OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH GUIDELINES

STANDARDS

In pursuit of our mandate we are guided by the established standards/regulations of the following institutions/organizations:

- *The existing statutes of Jamaica*
- *The Draft Jamaican Standard – Guidelines for Occupational Safety and Health Management Systems – General Guidelines on Principles, Systems and Supporting Techniques*
- *Ministries of Government (Jamaica)*
- *Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) United States Department of Labour*
- *Transport Canada*
- *United States Department of Transport*
- *National Fire Protection Association (United States of America)*
- *Jamaica Fire Brigade*
- *Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management*
- *National Environment and Planning Agency*
- *National Solid Waste Management Authority*
- *National Association of Safety Professionals (United States of America)*
- *International Building Code*