

Strategic OSH Inspections with Professionalism

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Abstract

One of characteristics of OSHAct is that it is "a goal-oriented law". Most regulations in the OSHAct are the goals that all industries should do their best to achieve even though they are described as a minimum requirement. Even though they are the minimum requirements, employers are encouraged to improve continuously their workplaces. Continual improvement is our goal regardless of our positions; government, industry, academia, research, public or private sectors. To achieve this ultimate goal, the key word is across all the stakeholders "professionalism".

The strongest driving force for OSH in the workplace is the regulation and OSH inspection. Crimes can be categorized into two types: crimes of commission and crimes of omission. Commission refers to the doing of an act, like killing people or stealing something. Omission is the opposite; it means refraining from doing something.

Violation or noncompliance to the Occupational Health and Safety Act(OSHAct) is classified into a crime of omission since most regulations in the OSHAct enforce employer to do something to prevent accidents or ill-health in the workplace. Most of somethings to do in the OSHAct are described in technical and professional terms and definitions. It is not easy to understand without an appropriate knowledge. Sometimes it is hardly interpretable even for the professionals.

This is fundamentally why OSH inspectors must be a professional or at least a semi-professional and employer should hire the OSH managers who are properly trained or who have appropriate knowledge and experiences. It will be presented why OSH inspectors should be professional and how to make them professional.

Palabras clave: Strategy OSH Inspection professionalism.