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OSLO
June 7 - June 8 2018



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"BLUE HELMET" OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AWARDS-CERTIFICATION SYSTEM IN RMC

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Abstract

Occupational health and safety is considered one of the most important issues all over the world. According to the official records, every year around 270 million of occupational accidents occur, average 2 million people die in these accidents. Construction industry constitutes the largest share in the fatal occupational accidents. Being aware of these facts, occupational health and safety has been a priority for RMC industry. The Blue Helmet Occupational Health and Safety Contests have been organised by the Turkish Ready Mixed Concrete Association since 2010 to inform, raise awareness, encourage and measure the sufficiency of the plants that operate in the ready mixed concrete industry. These contests took place for every 3 years, in 2010, 2013 and 2016. In 2016, based on the criteria of this award system, a new certification system on occupational health and safety of RMC plants was introduced. In this paper, we intend to underline the effects of this award and new certification system on the improvement of the occupational health and safety perspective of RMC industry. The main items of the audits such as OHS management, emergency situations&risk analysis, employees&training, personal protective equipment management, periodical inspections, vehicles and traffic management, production&raw materials, etc. in this award&certification system are also highlighted in the paper.

Keywords: Occupational health and safety, certification, occupational accident.