

PRESS RELEASE

CIDB BOOSTS QUALITY OF SKILLED CONSTRUCTION PERSONNEL WITH ACCREDITATION

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 June 2016: Starting today, the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) will enforce the accreditation of skilled construction personnel, a move that will boost the calibre and quality of the workforce.

The introduction of qualifications under the Act 520 (Amendment 2011) will raise the bar for competency and productivity for the whole construction industry.

Furthermore, accreditation will also transform skilled construction work into an attractive career option by improving the image and profile of the workforce.

Employers and personnel have had one year to fully comply with the accreditation requirements since the amendments to Act 520 took effect on 1 June 2016. Employers and individuals that have yet to comply with Act 520 are encouraged to do so quickly or face stern action.

Individuals that fail to be accredited may be fined up to RM5,000 under Section 22A of the Act 520 (Amendment 2011). Site supervisors as well as their employers that fail to obtain accreditation for construction personnel may also be fined up to RM5,000 for each offence. CIDB will now be working closely with authorities to identify and sue any parties that are found to be in breach of the act.

Note that accreditation differs from the compulsory registration that is required for all construction personnel involved with activities at construction sites that are over the age of 16. There are currently 1.2 million construction personnel registered with CIDB. Accreditation only applies to skilled construction personnel as defined under Schedule 3. This includes:

- concreter
- bar-bender
- carpenterbricklayer/mason

- plasterer/pavior
- tiler
- painter
- joiner
- metalworker
- drain-layer
- glazier
- welder
- construction plant operator
- plumber
- licensed electrician

Implementation and enforcement of Act 520 (Amendment 2011) is also expected to improve safety at construction sites. By 2020, the Safety Quality and Professionalism thrust under the Construction Industry Transformation Programme (CITP) aims to reduce by 50 percent of fatality rate in the construction industry by 2020, from 10.94 deaths per 100,000 workers that was recorded in 2015.

The amendments to Act 520 were first approved by the House of Commons on 30 June 2011 and subsequently approved by the Senate on 12 July 2011. The amendments were based on feedback and input from various parties involved in the construction industry, both from the private and public sector. Prior to the implementation of the amendments, CIDB has held further discussions and seminars with the relevant government agencies, local authorities, contractors and industry players.

The amendments to Act 520 have also been implemented in stages. The enforcement of skilled personnel accreditation is the final step to full implementation of the amendments.

In 1 December 2015, CIDB together with the Royal Malaysian Customs, has already begun enforcement against contractors that utilise uncertified construction materials, set out under Act 520 (Amendment 2011).

Parties found to be using construction materials listed under Schedule 4 of Act 520 (Amendment 2011) that fail undergo the compliance process, may be fined no less than RM10,000 and no more than RM500,000.

Meanwhile, contractors that fail to register with CIDB may be fined no less than RM10,000 and no more than RM100,000 under section 25 of the Act 520 (Amendment 2011).

Additional information on Act 520 may be obtained online from CIDB's website at www.cidb.gov.my.

ABOUT CIDB

The Construction Industry Development Board was established under the Construction Industry Development Act (Act 520) to develop the Capacity and Capability of the Construction Industry Through Enhancement of Quality and Productivity by Placing Great Emphasis on Professionalism, Innovation and Knowledge in the Endeavour to Improve the Quality of Life.

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