

New Trends in Construction Managements

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Editorial
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The current edition of the Journal of Engineering, Project, and Production Management features three papers from the 8th International Conference on Engineering, Project, and Production Management (EPPM 2017) which was held at Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan in the period September 20-22, 2017. EPPM 2017 included two distinguished keynote speakers and about 45 papers from international scholars and researchers who submitted peer reviewed articles dealing with issues related to engineering, project and production management. The other two papers deal with management aspects of large infrastructures and productivity improvements. In all, the selected papers in this issue cover the spectrum of the themes of the Journal. This conference presented examples of attempted engagement between researchers and businesses, a challenge which was highlighted by Ahmad et al. (2016) in “Success Factors of Project and Process Management- Lessons Learned from EPPM 2016.”

Zarewal et al. of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria present an impact assessment investigation of governance on Large Infrastructure Projects (LIP) Delivery in developing countries. The governance assures proper project planning, execution, and efficiently managed to realize their objectives. This investigation points out success in proper project initiation, budget allocation, proactive risk management and top management support. The authors recommend a governance framework inclusive of guidelines, and stipulations for possible contractual deviations.

Paper by Tsehaye et al. of Bahir University, Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia articulates the impact of down time on production in the loom machines used in the weaving industry. The paper describes the application of Failure Mode Effect Analysis (FMEA) as an improvement tool aimed at reducing down time. FMEA helps to identify the relative risks associated with the production of a product. It also can determine effective actions to reduce those risks and it can track the outcomes of these actions. In other words, FMEA is a structured approach designed to reduce risk in production. In this particular case, it was shown that significant savings can be achieved as a result of reducing down time and increasing productivity.

Mohammed Alkhadim, Kassim Gidado, and Noel Painting of University of Brighton, United Kingdom present an investigation in the area of subjective safety in crowded large space buildings. The authors used the Holy Mosque in Makkah as a case study where a questionnaire was distributed to 1,940 pilgrims across 62 different nationalities. A comprehensive literature review was

conducted to identify items for the respective constructs. The authors employed Analysis of Moment Structure (AMOS) for descriptive analysis and Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA). Furthermore, the authors have attempted to cover most of the risk factors that may contemplate into crowd disasters. This research had noted that the behaviour of the users and the physical items present in crowded large space buildings may also be triggered and cause unwanted disasters. This project recommends that safety management strategists should take into their consideration, the subjective safety of users.

Rahul Basu of Adarsha Institute of Technology, Kundana, in (Bangalore, India) presents an interesting endeavour where the solar energy can be extracted from ocean waves. The potential for harvesting wave energy from ocean waves and the mechanisms for extraction to ocean floors were also discussed. The author suggests that economic return on investment (ROI) can be used as an efficiency measure, instead of mechanical efficiency. The author points to the fact that this energy is extracted from surface wave motion which is renewable. However, the author also accentuates the possible harm to the environment and marine life as a result of using the ocean wave farms along the coastal lines.

Whitlock and Abanda of Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, United Kingdom, present a study on Building Information Modelling (BIM) can be applied in the area of logistics management of construction projects. The authors concluded that BIM has numerous applications in the logistical management of materials delivery and distribution. Moreover, BIM can be applied in dynamic site layout and planning.

References

- Ahmad, H. S., Bazlamit, S. M., Jurczuk, A., and Orłowski, C. (2016). Success Factors of Project and Process Management — Lessons Learned from EPPM 2016. *Engineering Management in Production and Services*, 9(3) 7-9.