




Philippine Economic Zone Authority

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2019-006

FOR : Economic Zone Locator Enterprises
Economic Zone Administrators and Managers

FROM : BGen CHARITO B. PLAZA, MNSA, PhD 

SUBJECT : Implementation of the Occupational Safety and Health Act

DATE : 30 January 2019

We wish to inform that the Department of Labor and Employment has issued the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act through Department Order 198 series of 2018. The full text of the document may be downloaded directly from the DOLE website through this link:

http://www.bwc.dole.gov.ph/images/Issuances/DepartmentOrder/DO198_19_IRR_of_R_A_11058_AnActStrengtheningCompliancewithOSHSandProvidingPenaltiesForViolationsThereof.pdf

Some salient features of the policy include the following:

- Safety officers may be classified as safety officer 1 to 4 depending on the hours of OSH training and experience, they are trained by DOLE or DOLE-accredited training organizations and tasked by the employer to implement an OSH program. Accreditation with DOLE is no longer necessary.
- Workplaces are no longer classified as hazardous and non-hazardous but as low, medium or high risk establishments. The company's safety officer, in coordination with DOLE, is tasked with identifying the level of risk of their workplace.
- The number of safety officers as well as number and nature of occupational health personnel and facilities will depend on the level of risk of the workplace and the number of workers.
- Worker's OSH seminar, which is an eight (8) hour module as prescribed by the OSH standards, are required to be given to all workers by the company safety officer or by a DOLE-accredited training organization.
- Work stoppage order (WSO) may be implemented by the employer, safety officer or worker if there is imminent danger in the workplace. Previously, the WSO is only issued by the DOLE. The employer, safety officer or worker shall immediately notify the DOLE that an imminent danger situation exists in the workplace.
- Administrative fines may be imposed by DOLE for any willful failure to comply with the OSH standards or with a compliance order issued by the said agency.

PEZA is closely coordinating with the DOLE in the conduct of information dissemination. The DOLE has provided a MS PowerPoint file that may be used by safety officers in conducting in-house briefings on the IRR of the OSH Act, the file is available from the PEZA website through the Downloads section.

If there are questions, in implementation, you are encouraged to contact directly the DOLE Bureau of Working Conditions (BWC), through email at bwcsecretary@gmail.com or call their office at (02) 527-3478. You may also email the PEZA Environmental Safety Group at ensd@peza.gov.ph or call (02) 551-6561.

For your guidance and compliance.

PEZA - DTS



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