

Readings in Contemporary Construction Technology and Management

Muhammad Abu Eusuf



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MANAGING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS THROUGH SHARED ONLINE CALENDAR

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ABSTRACT

SKALA (Contract Monitoring and Reporting System) is on line tool used by the PWD (Public Works Department) officers to monitor construction projects throughout the country. Despite of its advantages it has some weakness such as unable to provide the functions of shared calendar for activities monitoring and inability to send SMS notification of any events related to the project which are important in effective project management. The aim of the study is to explore the usage of on-line shared calendar and SMS as added features in SKALA as a tool in construction project management. In this study, Google Calendar and SMS have been activated in the implementation of 3 projects scattered in the states of Pulau Pinang which involves 7 PWD officers for a period of one year. The result shows that the on-line shared calendar features and notification by SMS could increase the efficiency of construction project management. It is recommended that the implementation of these added features as the enhancement of the existing SKALA could be extended to all PWD officers involved in construction project management to increase their work efficiency.

Keywords: Construction Project Management, activities monitoring, online calendar

INTRODUCTION

Since 2000 construction sector registered an average growth of 0.7% per annum as compared to 5.4% per annum GDP growth for the country. Construction sector contribution toward GDP is about 3% but construction industry enable the growth for other industries through its role as fundamental building block of the nation's socio economic development (CIMP, (2007)). Under the 10th Malaysian Plan which covers the period from 2011 to 2015 the Ministry of Works has identified five strategic