

Peer Review

Review of: "Tomorrow's Buildings: What Are the Occupational Health and Safety Issues?"

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This research paper presents a foresight study conducted on the future of occupational health and safety in the construction industry. The study identifies the main challenges that could emerge in connection with technological advances, environmental concerns, and the industrialization of practices. Thanks to a well-structured methodology based on scenario building and transformation drivers, the authors provide valuable information on potential risks and opportunities in the sector.

One of the main strengths of the study is its systematic approach to analyzing future trends. By integrating variables such as workforce dynamics, materials use, and digitization, the study highlights how these elements interlock to give rise to the occupational safety and health (OSH) issues that could emerge tomorrow. The use of contrasting scenarios also offers stakeholders the opportunity to anticipate and adapt to different possible futures. In addition, the study underlines the importance of training and coordination, recognizing that technological change must be accompanied by appropriate skills development to ensure safety in the workplace.

The study's originality also lies in its multidisciplinary approach, combining knowledge of urban planning, engineering, economics, and workplace safety. This perspective offers a systemic view of the challenges and opportunities in the evolving construction landscape. Also, the study's emphasis on foresight methodology sets it apart from other research, with a more proactive rather than reactive approach, making it a valuable tool for decision-makers.

Finally, in the discussion section, Table II is particularly noteworthy. It lists, in a structured way, the risks that could be reduced or increased according to different factors and presents, for each family of risks, potential innovations for prevention.

Overall, this research provides a relevant and well-organized exploration of future OSH issues in construction. Its structured methodology, forward-looking approach, and interdisciplinary analysis make it a valuable contribution to the field.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.