

ABSTRACT

This is a research report on project management in the Malaysian construction industry. Formal project management was first introduced in the Malaysian construction industry in the early eighties and its importance in construction projects has been growing over the years. However, there has not been any effort in the research and development of the management approaches to project management, although management processes, theories and principles are being applied in formal project management since it was first introduced.

Therefore the aim of this exploratory research is to study current project management practices in the Malaysian construction industry, on how management processes, theories and principles can be applied to explain current industry practises, and to address the complications in project management. The research also aims to identify suitable changes in the management approach to project management for the next millennium and define areas worthy of further research.

The research revealed that the pertinent issues for project management in the Malaysian construction industry are mobilising and demobilising resources in an unpredictable environment, organising resources to function effectively, motivating resources, leading project teams effectively, building people skills to meet industry demands, identifying project missions to minimise change and finally introducing change in project management. These issues are discussed in detail in this report, and various managerial recommendations are made to address the problems in project management.