

**INVESTIGATION OF HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES IN
RUBBER PRODUCTS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY
IN SRI LANKA**

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Master of Science in Occupational Safety and Health Management

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University of Moratuwa
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Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the
degree Master of Science in Occupational Safety and Health Management

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DECLARATION

To the best of my understanding and belief, this dissertation contains entirely original content that has not been previously published or authored by another individual, except where explicitly acknowledged within the text. I affirm that this work is the product of my independent effort and that no materials previously submitted for a degree or diploma at any other university or institution of higher learning have been incorporated into this dissertation without my explicit consent.

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ABSTRACT

This research examines health and safety challenges faced by the employees in Sri Lanka's rubber products manufacturing industry, with a particular focus on the critical need for safe working conditions to address ongoing acute health and safety issues that diminish stakeholder satisfaction. The objectives of the study include assessing the level of health and safety practices implemented and identifying dangerous exposures along with their effects on employees.

To achieve these objectives, the study conducted an extensive literature review and administered a structured questionnaire survey with both the employees and the management adopting the case study strategy. The findings highlight significant health and safety concerns, particularly related to chemical hazards in Sri Lanka's rubber product manufacturing industry. Key recommendations for improvement include the use of protective gear, enhanced ventilation systems, regular health check-ups, safety training, and corporate health promotion initiatives. Implementing these measures is expected to enhance employee well-being and safety, which in turn can drive productivity and boost organizational morale.

While this study provides valuable insights, it is important to acknowledge its limitations, such as, sample size or regional focus, which may affect the generalizability of the results. However, these limitations also present opportunities for further research, including expanding the study to different geographical areas or exploring additional factors influencing safety practices. Overall, addressing these recommendations could lead to substantial improvements in health and safety within the industry.

KEYWORDS: Health and Safety Issues, Rubber Products Manufacturing Industry, Sri Lanka

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