

Worker safety: Working under pressure, Deadlines and time constraints

Time constraints are present in many jobs across a variety of industries. It is critical that workplaces prioritize worker safety when it comes to meeting deadlines. Time pressure can be caused by multiple factors, and it is important to explore solutions to factors influencing time pressures including challenges related to supply chain, acquiring specialized equipment, poor weather conditions, having enough skilled workers, and more.

A study exploring the impact of time pressure on construction worker performance found that the respondents agreed that the schedule pressure does

lead to an increase in the amount of out-of-sequence work and the number of work-related errors. Under time-pressure conditions, workers tend to perform tasks out of order, miss critical steps, or do not use the proper personal protective equipment (PPE), there is a risk of human performance errors. These errors could result in worker injury, equipment damage, lost time from having to redo work, or

a combination of these consequences. For example, at the end of an extended day on-site performing routine wind turbine maintenance, the technicians began loading their truck with the equipment they used throughout the day. The workers were moving quickly through this task and failed to fully secure the back of the truck resulting in some equipment falling out once the vehicle began moving. The team parked the vehicle, re-loaded the truck, and securely fastened the door on the vehicle.

Nepal, M. P., Park, M., and Son, B. (2006). Effects of schedule pressure on construction performance. *Journal of Construction Management and Education*, 20(2), pp. 182-188. <https://eprints.qut.edu.au/58422/1/58422.pdf>

Workplace Strategies for Mental Health. (2023, July 17).

<https://www.workplacestrategiesformentalhealth.com/resources/team-activity-mistake-meetings>

