



MOM/OSHD/2022-05

15 September 2022

All Contractors

WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH (WSH) CIRCULAR ON REVISED DEMERIT POINTS SYSTEM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The MOM Demerit Points System (DPS) was first introduced in 2000 in the construction industry to deter poor WSH performance. The DPS is regularly reviewed to ensure that it remains relevant and to uplift safety standards.

2 From 1 October 2022, the following two key changes to enhance the DPS will take effect:

- a) **Lower threshold for issuing of demerit points for composition fines** – Under the current DPS, a contractor is issued one demerit point from the fourth composition fine onwards. Under the revised DPS, contractors would be issued one demerit point for every composition fine.
- b) **Increase demerit points issued for prosecution actions for major injury and dangerous occurrences to align with that for a fatality** – Under the current DPS, a contractor is issued 18 demerit points upon the Ministry's decision to prosecute for an accident that led to a major injury or a dangerous occurrence. Under the revised DPS, contractors will be issued 25 demerit points.

3. The details of the revised DPS are attached with this circular. If you have any further queries or clarifications, please contact us at MOM_OSHD@mom.gov.sg

Issued by:

Occupational Safety and Health Division

Ministry of Manpower

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Implementation of the Revised Demerit Point System

Demerit Points to be Issued

The number of demerit points issued is based on the severity of the offence committed. Each demerit point is valid for 18 months.

Severity	Type of incidents	DPs	When
Potential harm	Composition fine	1	Date of fine
	Partial Stop Work Order (SWO)	5	Date of SWO issued
	Full Stop Work Order (SWO)	10	
Harm	Prosecution for Dangerous Occurrences or accidents that led to major injuries or death of one person	25	Date of MOM's decision to prosecute
Severe harm	Prosecution for accidents that led to death of more than one person	50	

Penalties to be imposed

Contractors who accrued 25 demerit points or more will be temporarily debarred from employing foreign employees, for a period between three months and up to two years.

Contractors will be informed in writing when the demerit points are issued. The letter will include the total number of demerit points that the contractor has accumulated thus far, and a breakdown of these points. Points are accumulated across all the worksites under the same contractor.

Number of demerit points accumulated within 18-month period	Duration of debarment from hiring of new Foreign Employees
1 to 24	Nil
25 to 49	3 months
50 to 74	6 months
75 to 99	1 year
100 to 124	2 years
125 and above	2 years - also debarred from renewing existing work passes