



Contrasting Lifestyles in Commercial and Heavy Civil Construction



My senior project was a quantitative research project that provided a questionnaire out to employees from commercial and heavy civil companies. The intent was to gather information based on the lifestyle of their workers. During classes and internships students are taught what the job consists of and what is the difference between heavy civil and commercial. But there is not exposure to what type of lifestyle a student can have if they decide to go into any of those industries. The survey provided with eleven questions that are applicable to both industries. The response obtained were analyzed to determine differences and similarities.

The distribution of surveyors was sixty percent from the commercial industry and forty percent from the heavy civil industry. Nearly identical numbers came back from surveyors who are likely to retire from their current company. This demonstrates that the vast majority are pleased working in their current industry and company. One out of the eleven questions were if you could work in any of the four major construction sectors which one would it be? The responses for this question challenged the responses from the previous question. Seventy three percent of all commercial surveyor would change industries if given the opportunity. From the seventy-tree percent, forty three percent would go into the heavy civil industry. When compare the heavy civil surveyors everyone answered that they would stay in the heavy civil industry. An important question was how safe do the surveyors feel about job security? Option given were very safe, somewhat safe, neutral, somewhat unsafe, and very unsafe. Commercial had zero percent for very safe and seventy one percent for somewhat safe and twenty-nine for unsafe. When compare to the responses from heavy civil job security for commercial can be question. Heavy civil had one hundred percent for very safe. From analyzing all responses from the eleven, both industries do have similarities based on the responses from the surveyors. But the general census is that working in the heavy civil industry will provide a better lifestyle. Commercial construction is the main sector students from the construction management program tend apply for internship in and a job. As responses demonstrate the heavy civil industry should be considered more or equally as commercial industry when applying for a job or internship because the census is that heavy civil provides a better lifestyle.

Key Words: Heavy Civil, Commercial, Construction, lifestyle, survey.

Survey

1. What construction industry do you work in?
2. How long have you worked for your current company?
3. How long have you been working in the construction industry?
4. What construction industry did you first start in?
5. How long did it take you to feel comfortable at work?
6. What workday would you consider to be most hectic?
7. How safe do you feel about job security?
8. What position did you start in when you started your first job?
9. If you could work in any of the four major construction types which one would it be?
10. Do you plan to work for your current company until you retire?
11. If you could give someone just one piece of advice that works in the construction industry, what would it be?

