Construction Safety: Philippine Setting

January 2007

Overview

❑ Number of construction establishments, as of 2002: **2,022**

❑ Employed Persons, as of Oct. 2006 (in thousands): **1,626**

❑ Organizations/Affiliations:

- o Philippine Construction Industry Association
- o Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines
- o Philippine Construction Association, Inc.
- o Philippine Institute of Architects
- o United Architects of the Philippines
- o Philippines Overseas Construction Board
- o Philippine Institute of Interior Designers

General Observations

❑ Safety management systems are not mandatory

❑ Safety culture is only dominant in established companies

❑ Contractor management varies from one client to another

❑ Not all incidents are reported and investigated

❑ Cascade of learning from incidents (LFIs) is not yet done

❑ Optimization of Worker Performance vis-à-vis Safety is still in the infant stage

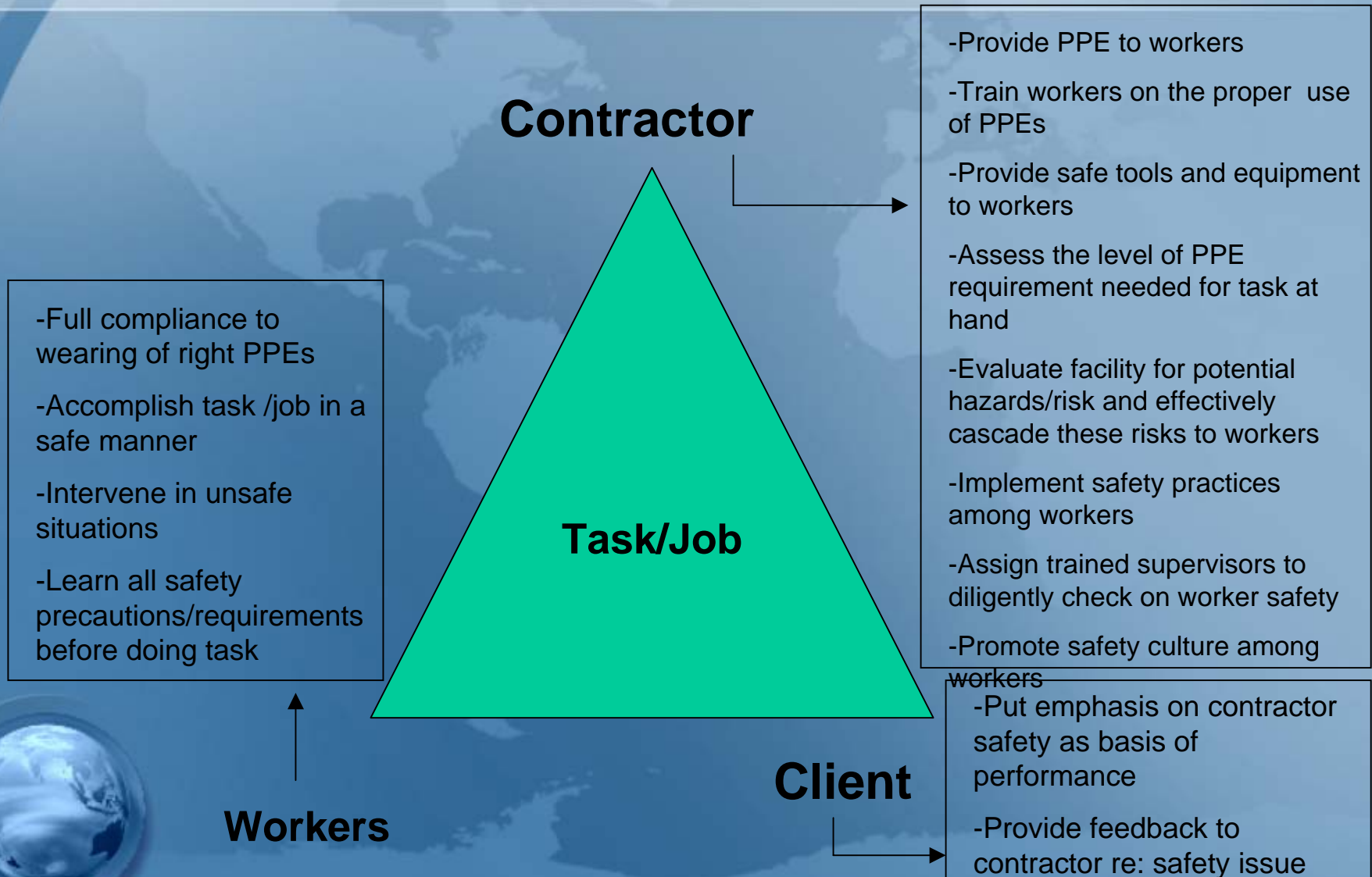❑ Best Practice Networking among stakeholders in the business needs improvement

Analysis of Incidents

- Class (Fatality, First Aid, Medical Treatment)
- Time of day
- Agent of Injury (stair, ladder, tool)
- Nature of Injury (cut, fracture)
- Occupation (foreman, helper)
- Part of Body (back, fingers, eyes)
- Event (struck by, slip)
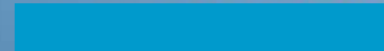- Equipment (vehicle, product)
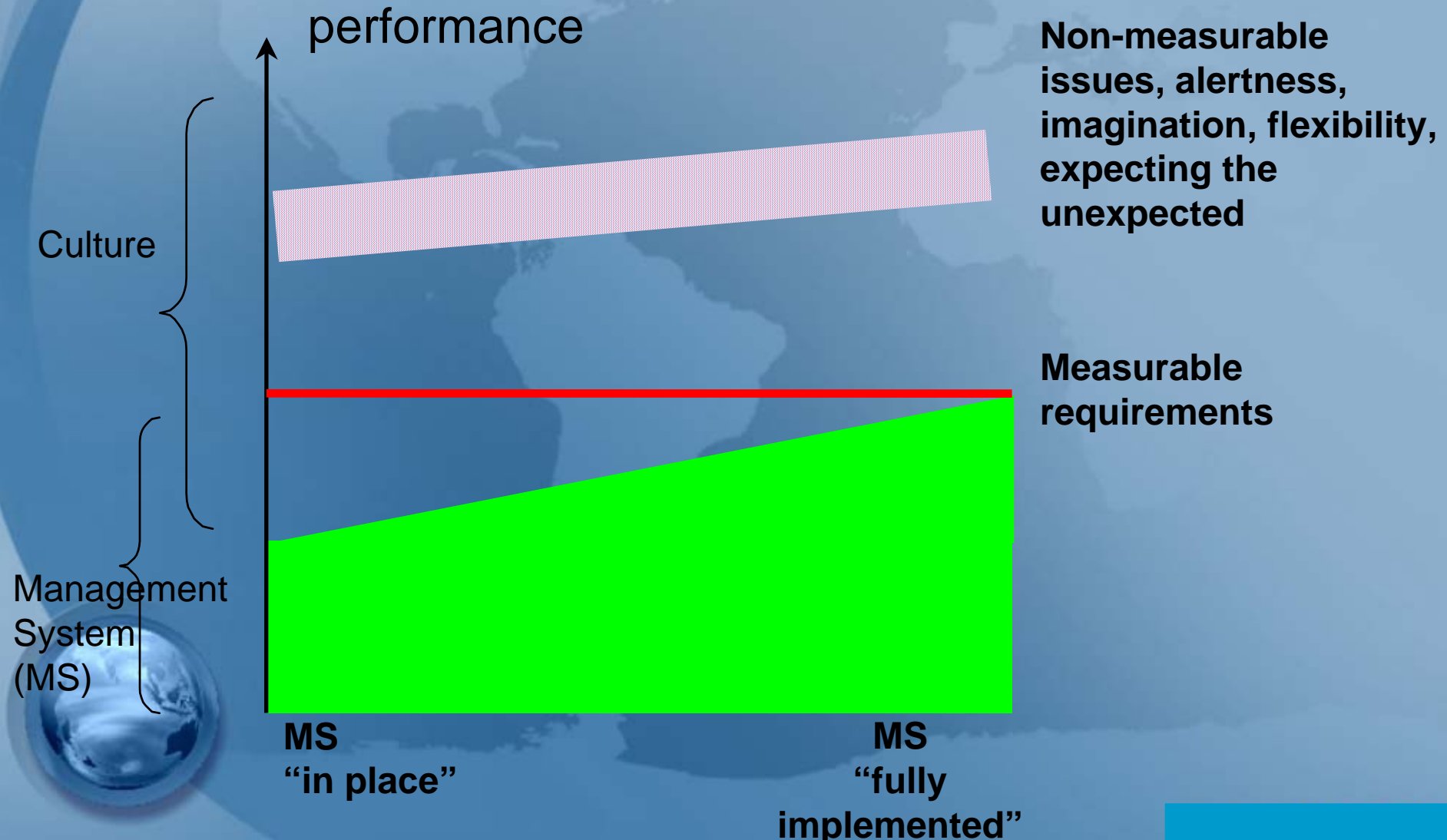- Task at the time (maintenance, walking)
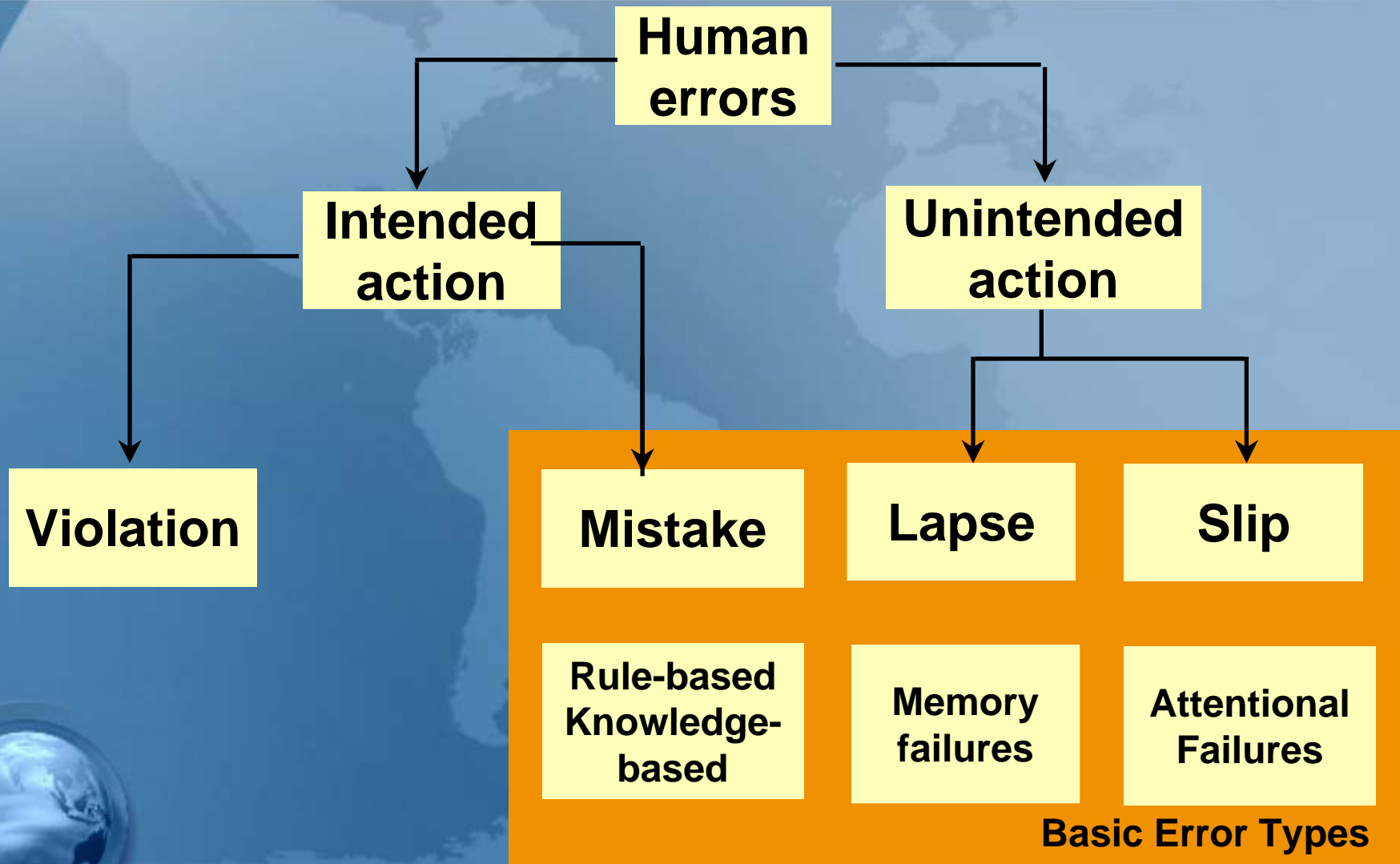
Matrix of Significant Requirements

Contractor

- Provide PPE to workers
- Train workers on the proper use of PPEs
- Provide safe tools and equipment to workers
- Assess the level of PPE requirement needed for task at hand
- Evaluate facility for potential hazards/risk and effectively cascade these risks to workers
- Implement safety practices among workers
- Assign trained supervisors to diligently check on worker safety
- Promote safety culture among workers

Task/Job

- Full compliance to wearing of right PPEs
- Accomplish task /job in a safe manner
- Intervene in unsafe situations
- Learn all safety precautions/requirements before doing task

Client

- Put emphasis on contractor safety as basis of performance
- Provide feedback to contractor re: safety issue

Workers

What would make the system works?

□ **Compliance?**

□ **Culture?**

□ **Contractor Management?**

Why is "compliance" not enough?

performance

Non-measurable issues, alertness, imagination, flexibility, expecting the unexpected

Measurable requirements

Culture

Management System (MS)

MS "in place"

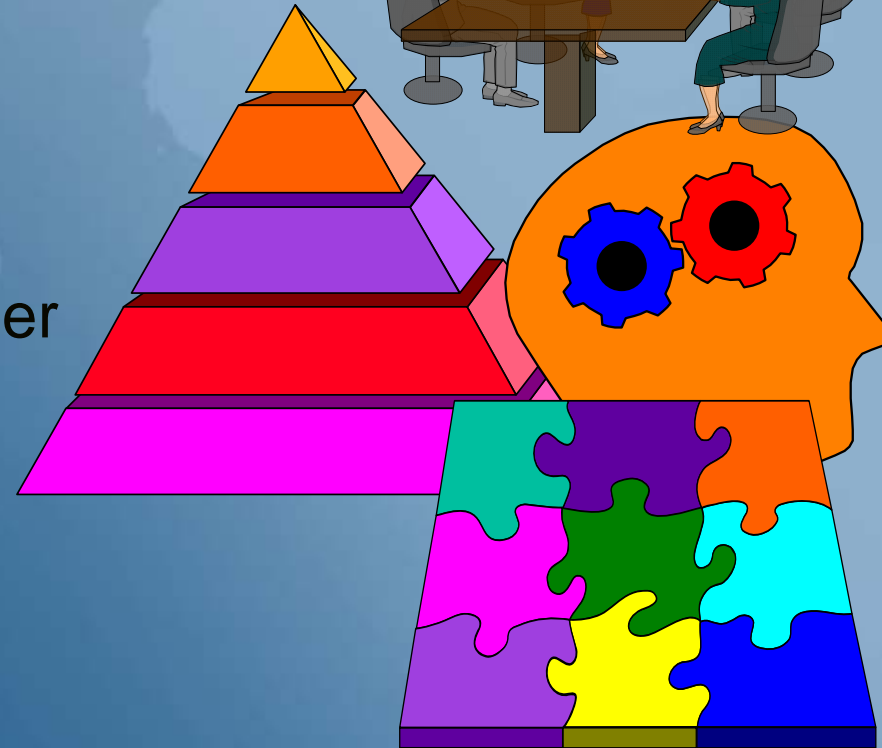MS "fully implemented"

Culture

Mode 1

- ❑ Contractor provides personnel and tools
- ❑ Contractor provides assurance that people are fit and that tools and machinery are maintained and suitable
- ❑ Company gives instructions and supervises
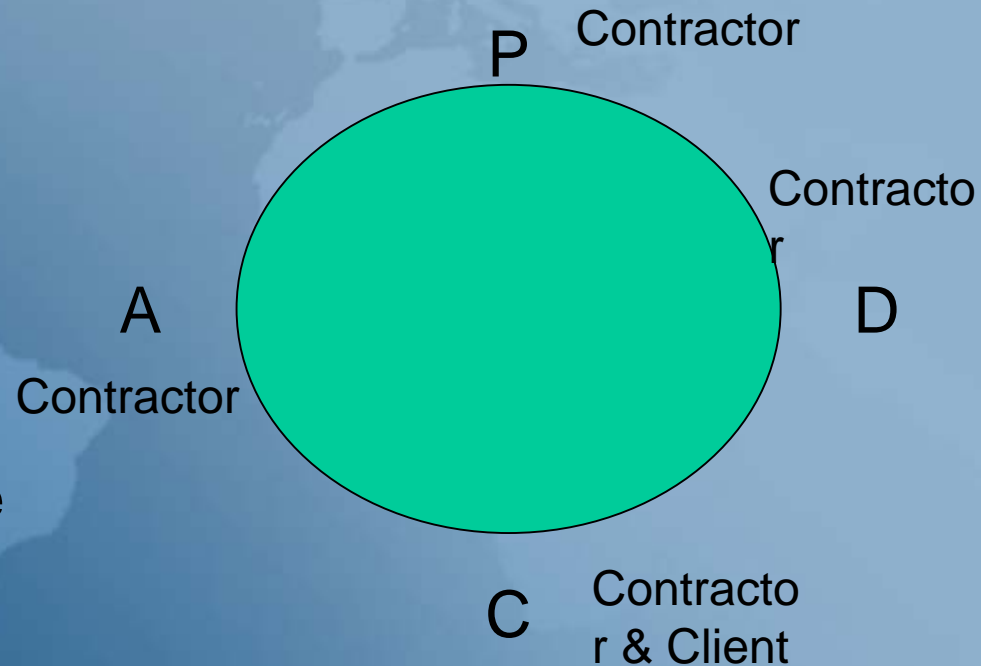- ❑ Company's safety management system will be used

Mode 2

- ❑ Contractor executes all aspects of the job under its own safety management system and provides the necessary instructions and supervision
- ❑ Contractor verifies the proper functioning of the safety management system
- ❑ Client verifies overall effectiveness of safety management controls

Contractor Management

- Discussions with Contractors: both modes are being used.
- Sometimes contractors are blamed for contractor personnel incidents
- Contractors are responsive (but sustainability can't be determined)
- Observations/non-compliance seen as a symptom of failure of contractor safety management system

P Contractor

Contractor

A
Contractor

D

C Contractor & Client

Targets

- Promote Safety as a value and culture
- Significantly reduce the injury rate per year
- Promote compliance to safety management system & procedures
- Intensify government intervention wrt safety requirements of construction businesses

Future Directions

- Raise consciousness
- Create a need in individuals
- Make the outcome believable
- Make the outcome achievable
- Provide information about success
- Develop personal vision
- Construct a feasible plan
- Define measurements of success
- Make everyone publicly commit to their plan
- Carry out the plan
- Review Progress
- Adopt plan
- Perform management review
- Secure outcome