

INHERENT DISADVANTAGES OF INCORPORATING QUANTITY SURVEYING  
SOFTWARES TO QUANTITY SURVEYORS

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## ABSTRACT

Quantity surveyor is one of the professional members in construction industry. Quantity surveyors serve pivotal role in ensuring the smooth execution of project although the significance of other professionals such as architect, engineer, project manager and contractor are no less significant. In this respect, their importance in project chain is manifested in their involvement from pre-contract to post-contract stage. However, this scenario is experiencing a paradigm shift concurrent with the technological boom in literally every facet of life. This is manifested in the mushrooming of quantity surveying softwares' incorporation among quantity surveying fraternity. Hence, this research serves to identify area of quantity surveying tasks encroached by quantity surveying softwares and their inherent disadvantages among quantity surveying fraternity of Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur and Johor in Malaysia. Eventually a total of 89 sets of questionnaires inclusive of postal, online and direct visit questionnaires were sent before 24 sets of questionnaires were received and analysed using SPSS softwares eventually. The result shows that the degree of quantity surveying softwares' incorporation among quantity surveying fraternity is still mediocre after analysis of the extent of quantity surveying softwares' usage. The concomitant disadvantages that accrue are assessed from the respondents. From this study, the respondents rated the entailment of various expenses as the main disadvantage which constitutes license renewal cost, software procurement cost, maintenance cost and others. Others include potential job relegation, time lost for training and susceptibility to data exploitation. After the considerations on the disadvantages, the viability of quantity surveying softwares' incorporation to quantity surveying fraternity is evaluated so that proper adjustments are made to adapt to the real scenario of the quantity surveying practice which is getting increasingly competitive.

## ABSTRAK

Juruukur Bahan adalah ahli profesional yang terlibat dalam industri pembinaan dan memainkan peranan penting dalam memastikan kelancaran pelaksanaan projek walaupun kepentingan ahli profesional lain seperti arkitek, jurutera, projek manager dan kontraktor tidak boleh disangkal. Kepentingan juruukur bahan dalam projek dimanifestasi dengan penglibatan aktif dari peringkat pra-kontrak sehinggalah ke pasca-kontrak. Walaupun demikian, senario ini sedang mengalami satu anjakan paradigm selaras dengan kemajuan teknologi maklumat. Keadaan ini dimanifestasi dengan kemunculan pelbagai perisian ukur bahan di kalangan firma juruukur bahan. Justeru, kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengenalpasti bidang kerja juruukur bahan yang semakin mengaplikasikan perisian juruukur bahan dan juga kesan negatif daripada pengaplikasian perisian juruukur bahan di Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur dan Johor. Pada peringkat awalan, sejumlah 89 borang kajian soal-selidik dikirim melalui pos, online dan lawatan langsung. Hasilnya, hanya 24 borang soal-selidik diterima dan dianalisis dengan perisian SPSS. Hasil soal selidik menunjukkan tahap pengaplikasian perisian juruukur bahan masih bertahap sederhana. Selain itu, responden juga dinilai berdasarkan tahap persetujuan dengan kesan negatif pengaplikasian perisian juruukur bahan. Dari analisis data, didapati kebanyakan responden setuju dengan kesan negatif dari segi perbelanjaan seperti lesen pembaharuan perisian, pembelian perisian, penyelenggaraan perisian dan lain-lain. Selain itu, kesan negatif lain termasuklah mengakibatkan pengangguran juruukur bahan, kehilangan masa berharga kerana latihan mengaplikasikan perisian dan juga eksplotasi data sulit oleh staf syarikat. Selepas mengambil kira kesan negatif, kesesuaian perisian juruukur bahan kepada profesion juruukur bahan akan dinilai supaya langkah-langkah sewajarnya boleh dilaksanakan bagi menghadapi senario praktis juruukur bahan yang semakin kompetitif.