

Senior Thesis Critical Issue in the Construction Industry Research Survey

### Consequences of the English-Spanish Language Barrier in the Construction Industry

This survey was created for the sole purpose of Casey Mowery's senior thesis research. All responses will be kept confidential and any results/conclusions from this survey are for academic research purposes only. Participant name and contact information are optional, and will only be used if Casey needs to contact the individual for more questions/clarifications. If you wish to remain anonymous, please still fill out the survey form for research purposes. Thank you in advance to all participants. Please try to have your responses in by Friday, **February 22**.

1. Name & Contact Info. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

2. May Casey contact you with further questions?            Y            N

3. Your Position \_\_\_\_\_

4. Approximately how many years have you been in the construction industry? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you think there is an English-Spanish language barrier in the construction industry today?            Yes            No

6. If yes, do you think that this problem is getting better or worse each year?            Better            Worse

7. In your experience, are the signs around typical jobsites bilingual?            Y            N

8. Have you attempted to learn or speak Spanish on the jobsite?            Y            N

8a. If yes, how?

9. On site, how often do you encounter people whose primary language is Spanish?

A. Never            B. Monthly            C. Weekly            D. Daily

10. Please rank the following in order of (1) biggest problem to (6) least problem that you have witnessed as a result of the language barrier (particularly on site).

- \_\_\_\_\_ Loss of Productivity/Efficiency
- \_\_\_\_\_ Greater Safety Risks
- \_\_\_\_\_ Difficulty in Giving Instructions (Basic Jobsite Communication)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of Respect / Diminished Team Atmosphere
- optional \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- optional \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

11. In your opinion, why did you rank #1 as the biggest problem related to the English-Spanish Language Barrier?

12. Which do you think would be more likely to happen?

Teach English to Spanish speaking individuals            or            Teach Spanish to English speaking individuals

**Any additional information you would like to provide or share regarding the English-Spanish Language Barrier in the construction industry:**

Thank you for participating in this survey. Confidential results will be made available in April through Casey Mowery's Penn State Architectural Engineering Senior Thesis E-Portfolio found at <http://www.engr.psu.edu/ae/thesis/portfolios/2008/cam459/>. Please contact Casey with any inquiries or information at [cam459@psu.edu](mailto:cam459@psu.edu).

Please complete the survey and send as:

1. email attachment to **cam459@psu.edu**

2. posted mail to 134 W. Fairmount Ave, Apt. 2, State College, PA 16801

Blank versions of this survey can be found at:

<http://www.engr.psu.edu/ae/thesis/portfolios/2008/cam459/research.htm>