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TITLE: Some firms heed calls to protect employees' health & safety amid haze

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SINGAPORE: Some construction companies are heeding calls from the Manpower Ministry to protect the safety and health of employees at work.

The ministry had advised minimising strenuous outdoor work when the PSI is in the unhealthy range.

Companies like Samsung C&T Corporation have taken that advice.

Besides reducing outdoor activities, it is also advising workers to wear dust muffs and protective masks, and to work under shelter, if possible.

Mohamad Zamri Kamar, the health, safety and environment manager of Samsung C&T Corporation, said: "Those who need to go out, there will be a supervisor around to monitor works. For the workers, we advise them to drink a lot of water to hydrate themselves. When possible, we will also advise them to work indoors. If its outdoors, we advise our workers to carry work out under our temporary shelter."

Sanwah Construction is another company with its own advisory notice.

Supervisors check on workers and advise them to work indoors, if they are not feeling well.

Anthony Ong, managing director at Sanwah Construction, said: "For us, when we do minor hacking works and minor rectification works, my workers they actually wet the surface. They make sure that this very dusty condition does not worsen. If they do not feel well, we have our first-aid room on standby. We also identify our nearest clinics, so we play safe."

- CNA/xq