A Case Study on the Spatial Problems of Office Design in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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Abstract: An unfavourable workplace can be a cause of major stress for workers. Understanding some common workplace issues can help give insight on improving the atmosphere at work. In Malaysia, office environment and its related issues are fairly new. This has been proven by the lack of awareness on the office safely and health guidelines in office design among employers as well as employees. Furthermore, the employees are not bothered about the layout or the office design as they will never have control over the matter. The incentives and assisting facilities and also it is not available to the employees. In Malaysia context this needs to be highlighted as there are still few studies have been done so far. Most of the studies that have been conducted by other researcher are review of literature and not in the actual condition in Malaysia. This huge gap needs to be filled by new research scholars. Interior designer’s offices are selected as the typology as their offices should be the best examples in office design for they are the one who will be given a task to design their client offices. Hence, the designer’s offices resemble more space requirement than the normal offices and that factors will add to more advantages in understanding the real issues of workspace design. The objective of this research is to investigate the conditions and problems of existing designer’s office in Kuala Lumpur in the scope of spatial arrangement, furniture and equipment provision. This research also attempts to get the user perception towards their existing workspace. For this purpose a case study method is adopted. An observation of three selected designer’s offices are conducted by doing a site measurement, site observation and questionnaire survey method to gather data on the user perception towards their existing workspace.

Keywords: Office Design, Office Layout, Office Setting, Designer’s Office, Office workspaces and User Perception