ABSTRACT

Bar code has been widely used in the manufacturing and retail sectors. The usage of bar code has brought great benefits to these sectors in terms of time and cost savings. For instance, the queues at the counters in busy supermarkets such as the NTUC were able to move faster as the cashiers need not enter the prices manually by scanning the bar codes on the items. However, bar code application is not common in the construction industry.

Many production techniques and management systems that are used in the manufacturing sectors have been successfully adopted by the construction industry. Prefabrication, a factory-based production method, is starting to gain popularity in the construction industry.

This research will explore the possible applications of bar code in the construction industry through surveys of Singapore construction firms. There will also be a case study on a local firm which uses bar code in its work process.

Key words
Bar code
Manufacturing and retail sectors
Time and cost savings
Construction industry