



The Business Impact of ISO 45001

The intended outcome of the implementation of the 45001 Standard is to improve the safety, health and well-being of the workforce and to provide for a safe place of work both for the workforce and other interested parties.

ISO 45001 aligns health and safety in a form which integrates with other management systems which are in operation in over 1 million organisations. This convergence could provide for significant cost savings through improved health and safety performance, the elimination of waste and duplication through standardisation and cooperation between departments.

As a 45001 compliant organisation the commercial advantages will be that it will provide a passport through other barriers to trade. As a truly global standard that enforces compliance on supply chains, certification guarantees international acceptance within all sectors of commerce. Reputational advantages and benchmarking competitiveness flow from this. This Integrated Management System (IMS) will bring together the top management team with a common purpose and ease the way to achieve other IMS such as Quality 9001, Environment 14001 or Security 27001.

Other organisations may feel the side effects of the new standard. Clients or customers may require compliance to 45001, either as part of their existing supply chain or to tender for new contracts, see our in depth Procurement Guide.

To understand if 45001 is appropriate for your organisation you must evaluate the role of your business in its context and its potential for growth and trade. Those already compliant with OHSAS 18001 may wish to make the transition to 45001, as 18001 certifications will stop in March 2021. Therefore, there are both ethical, moral and commercial incentives to becoming 45001 compliant and making improvements in your occupational health and safety performance.