

ISO 45001 FAQs

Q; What should we be doing to help us with migration to ISO 45001?

A; Use our guide and gap table to understand what you will need to do. Use our "Implementation Planner" to provide you with the detail of the next steps you will need to take.

Q; Which companies will find certification appropriate?

A; This standard is useful for all organisations, in all sectors, no matter what they do or how big (or small) they are. It will help you identify and manage your risks and put in place systems to improve your OH&S performance. Suitable for business owners, executive boards, health and safety managers, worker representatives, etc.

Q; Certificated Training for Auditors?

A; Lead auditor training is based on the IRCA specification - PR357 ISO 45001:2018 Lead Auditor. A certificate of achievement is awarded to candidates who pass the written examination at the end of the course.

Q; Do you have ISO 45001 training?

A; We have a foundation course to show conversion for transition from 18001 to 45001.

Q; Do you have OHSAS 18001 training?

A; We have a transition from OHSAS 18001 to ISO 45001 course.

Q; Do you have a gap analysis for ISO 45001?

A; We have tables which show the differences between OHSAS 18001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001. We have a product called "Implementation Planner" which provides a clause by clause roadmap to reach ISO 45001 compliance.

Q; I need an implementation plan to migrate from OHSAS 18001

We have gap tables showing the differences between OHSAS 18001 and ISO 45001. We have a product called "Implementation Planner" which provides a clause by clause improvement plan roadmap to reach ISO 45001 compliance.

Q; [Have you a guide to the requirements of ISO 45001?](#)

A; We have a guide to explain the clauses of the Standard. It is an ideal book for top management to read to understand the Standard.

Q; [I need to know how to manage procurement](#)

A; We have the most detailed guide on managing procurement.

Q; [I need to speak to someone who is an expert on the Standard.](#)

A; We have a panel of ISO 45001 consultants who can discuss your needs and provide solutions to help you.

Q; [What is ISO 45001?](#)

A; ISO 45001 is an occupational health and safety management system standard developed by the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), a non-governmental membership organisation that develops voluntary international standards. The standard has two primary objectives: to ensure the effective occupational health and safety of workers and non-workers (e.g. visitors) and to make sure compliance obligations are met.

Q; [What are the anticipated benefits of ISO 45001?](#)

A; ISO 45001 brings occupational health and safety management and continual improvement into the heart of an organisation. This new standard requires organisations to align their strategic direction with their OH&S management system. Organisations using 45001 will therefore benefit from the opportunity of bringing their management team together with one purpose in mind, rather than what is often a fragmented number of objectives. In addition, there is an increased focus on improving occupational health and safety performance.

Q; [Will ISO 45001 be more popular than previous OH&S standards?](#)

It is hoped that ISO 45001 will attain more international recognition. Most of the world's national standards bodies now support the standard. It will aid the response to published statistics showing poor health and safety management costs around 4% of global GDP. Like existing standards, such as OHSAS 18001, which will be withdrawn, and ILO-OSH, the new international standard's impact has the potential to save lives, reduce work-related ill-health and accidents and improve employee morale.

Q; What will the ISO 45001 certification specifically entail?

A; This Standard provides for three levels of verification, not just certification. Firstly, an organisation can self-declare conformity to the standard, through providing evidence of performance, for instance by internal audit. Secondly verification is possible through a second party audit, for instance by a customer or supplier to the organisation. And thirdly through registration often called certification by an outside accredited certification body. Our system of assessment performance will enable organisations to self-verify which also will provide sufficient evidence for them to successfully apply to achieve second or third-party audits.

Q; What is new about ISO 45001?

A; All the required activities for the systematic implementation of legislation and requirements on occupational health & safety are now initiated and regulated top-down. The management tier of a company therefore expects occupational health & safety to assume a central role and be more heavily integrated into the processes.

Like the revised ISO 9001 standards for quality management and ISO 14001 for environmental management, ISO 45001 follows what is referred to as 'high level structure'.

The new ISO 45001 standard will explicitly facilitate the efforts of companies to bring together all relevant aspects in the fields of quality, occupational health and safety and environmental protection, for example, in one management system. The improved standard structure permits a standardised application of terminology as well as a simplification of the interpretation of requirements of the relevant management system. The new ISO 45001 also offers a combination certification with other standards.

In addition, the new ISO 45001 explicitly takes account of completely outsourced processes as well as persons who are not permanently employed but who are under the responsibility of the company.

Q; When was ISO 45001 published?

A; It was published in March 2018.

Q; What if my organisation is certified to BS OHSAS 18001?

A; BSI will withdraw OHSAS 18001 in March 2021 when certification will end. We are offer advice and training to help you make the migration as smooth as possible.

Q; What are the major differences between the two?

A; This answer can be broken down into three major differences.

The Annex SL - The Annex is the high-level framework from which all ISO standards will be developed going forward. There are 10 chapters that comprise the Annex, some of these chapters will be familiar to those of you with management systems but there are some new chapters too.

Leadership – It'll no longer be enough for senior leaders to sign the occupational health and safety policy and forget about safety until next year when the policy is up for review. Leaders must embody health and safety and build it into the decision-making process.

Terms and definitions – Terms and definitions are being amended to bring the standard more in line with all sectors and to make it more suitable for organisations of any size. The term 'hazard identification' will go and is likely to be replaced by the terms 'risk identification' and 'risk control' to account for those sectors outside of manufacturing (e.g. retail) where 'hazard identification' doesn't apply in a lot of cases.

Q; Is it still worth certifying to OHSAS 18001?

A; Users of OHSAS 18001 will find it simpler to migrate to ISO 45001 than organisations without an established OH&S management system. There will be a full 3-year period for OHSAS 18001 users to move to the new standard from the date of ISO 45001's publication. The best advice is to start preparing to move as soon as possible. But success will depend on the degree of support by top management. They will have to decide how quickly to start the migration.

Q; What significance does Occupational Health & Safety Have?

A; Increasing competitive pressure and ever-faster response times mean that there is no longer any room for error for companies today. Industrial accidents and downtime usually lead to disruption to the production and supply process and can in the worst-case scenario result in order cancellations.

An occupational health & safety system will allow you to demonstrably reduce the number of accidents through a systematic approach to aspects of health & safety.

Q; Why – introduce ISO 45001?

A; 2.2 million workers lose their lives globally every year from accidents and disease;

6300 workers die every day from work related accidents;

Many businesses implement OHSAS 18001 and ISO14001 at the same time;

40 international versions of OHSAS 18001;

90,000 certificates issued in 127 countries.

Q; What – are the key changes included within ISO 45001?

A; High level structure, with common terminology and content;

Revisions for ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 27001 are in line with Annex SL.

Most of the framework will be familiar to OHSAS 18001 users.

Q; How can you prepare for the new standard?

A; 1) Set strategy - Stronger links between the OHS strategy and the organisation's overall strategy;

2) Engage stakeholders - Crucial in determining scope of management arrangements and will assist in developing criteria for evaluating OHS risks and opportunities;

3) Demonstrate leadership - Ensuring that the OHS policy and OHS objectives are established and are compatible with the strategic direction of the organisation;

- Integrating the OHS management system requirements into the organisation's business processes;
- Communicating the importance of effective OHS management;

4) Evaluate risks and opportunities - OHSAS 18001 focused on events with negative implications;

- Demonstrate the value of OHS interventions;
- Quantify the benefits in financial terms.