

## MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION OHSAS 18001

# Occupational Health and Safety Management System

The OHSAS 18000 series of standards that includes OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OHSMS) grew out of the international success of the ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 series of standards and the need for managing safety in the work environment. OHSAS stands for the Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series.

This standard was created from the British Standard for Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems BS 8800. In addition to the OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health and Safety Management Specifications there is a guidance document in this series known as OHSAS 18002 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems Guidelines for the implementation of OHSAS 18001. Organizations self certify or register to only the OHSAS 18001 standard.



# OHSAS 18001

There are six primary sections that classify the requirements in OHSAS 18001. Within these six sections of the standard are the specific requirements that an organization must apply to implement an OHSMS. The standard tracks very closely with the ISO 14001 standard and is designed to integrate with both the ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 management systems. Many sub-clauses are very similar, such as management review, document control, and corrective and preventive action.

The OHSAS 18001 system is geared towards reducing and preventing accidents and accident-related loss of lives, time and resources. OHSAS 18001 can be applied to any type of business, organization or industry that wishes to manage its risks for health and safety in the work place.

Who should look for the standard?

OHSAS 18001 can be applied to any type of business, organization or industry that wishes to manage its risks for health and safety in the work place.

Benefits for the companies with OHSAS 18001 certification

- Reduction of the legal risks, as for the organization as for its managers
- Security for its capital, by means of reduction of the possibility of generation of working and civil court jurisdiction liabilities
- Reduction of the probability of occurrence of accidents that can compromise the business
- Improvement of the image of the organization in the market, the community and workers
- Facilitation of the access in the market with raised safety awareness
- Optimization of resources
- Facilitation in the implementation and certification in standard SA 8000



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