

Occupational health and safety management systems — Specification

IMPORTANT

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Foreword

This Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series (OHSAS) specification and the accompanying OHSAS 18002, *Guidelines for the implementation of OHSAS 18001*, have been developed in response to urgent customer demand for a recognizable occupational health and safety management system standard against which their management systems can be assessed and certified.

OHSAS 18001 is compatible with the ISO 9001:1994, ISO 9001:2000 (Quality) and ISO 14001:1996 (Environmental) management systems standards, in order to facilitate the integration of quality, environmental and occupational health and safety management systems by organizations, should they wish to do so.

This OHSAS specification will be reviewed or amended when considered appropriate. Reviews will be conducted when new editions of either ISO 9001 or ISO 14001 are published, to ensure continuing compatibility.

This OHSAS specification will be withdrawn on publication of its contents in, or as, an international standard.

For the United Kingdom:

- BSI-OHSAS 18001 is not a British Standard;
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The development process used for OHSAS 18001 is open to other sponsors wishing to produce similar types of documents in association with BSI, provided that those sponsors are willing to comply with BSI's conditions for such documents.

Publications referred to during the development of this OHSAS specification

The following documents were referenced during the development of this OHSAS specification:

- BS 8800:1996, *Guide to occupational health and safety management systems*
- Technical Report NPR 5001:1997, *Guide to an occupational health and safety management system*
- SGS & ISMOL ISA 2000:1997, *Requirements for Safety and Health Management Systems*
- BVQI SafetyCert, *Occupational Safety and Health Management Standard*
- DNV, *Standard for Certification of Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OHSMS):1997*
- Draft NSAI SR 320, *Recommendation for an Occupational Health and Safety (OH & S) Management System*
- Draft AS/NZ 4801, *Occupational health and safety management systems — Specification with guidance for use*
- Draft BSI PAS 088, *Occupational health and safety management systems*

UNE 81900 series of pre-standards on the prevention of occupational risks

Draft LRQA SMS 8800 *Health & safety management systems assessment criteria*

OHSAS 18001 will supersede some of these referenced documents.

OHSAS 18001 maintains a high level of compatibility with, and technical equivalence to UNE 81900.

This publication does not purport to include all necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with this Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series publication does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages I to iv, pages 1 to 21, an inside back cover and a back cover.

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1 Scope

This Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series (OHSAS) specification gives requirements for an occupational health and safety (OH&S) management system, to enable an organization to control its OH&S risks and improve its performance. It does not state specific OH&S performance criteria, nor does it give detailed specifications for the design of a management system.

This OHSAS specification is applicable to any organization that wishes to:

- a) establish an OH&S management system to eliminate or minimize risk to employees and other interested parties who may be exposed to OH&S risks associated with its activities;
- b) implement, maintain and continually improve an OH&S management system;
- c) assure itself of its conformance with its stated OH&S policy;
- d) demonstrate such conformance to others;
- e) seek certification/registration of its OH&S management system by an external organization; or
- f) make a self-determination and declaration of conformance with this OHSAS specification.

All the requirements in this OHSAS specification are intended to be incorporated into any OH&S management system. The extent of the application will depend on such factors as the OH&S policy of the organization, the nature of its activities and the risks and complexity of its operations.

This OHSAS specification is intended to address occupational health and safety rather than product and services safety.

2 Reference publications

Other publications that provide information or guidance are listed in the Bibliography. It is advisable that the latest editions of such publications be consulted. Specifically, reference should be made to:

OHSAS 18002:2000, *Occupational health and safety management systems — Guidelines for the implementation of OHSAS 18001*.

BS 8800:1996, *Guide to occupational health and safety management systems*.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this OHSAS specification the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

accident

undesired event giving rise to death, ill health, injury, damage or other loss

3.2

audit

systematic examination to determine whether activities and related results conform to planned arrangements and whether these arrangements are implemented effectively and are suitable for achieving the organization's policy and **objectives** (see 3.9)

3.3

continual improvement

process of enhancing the OH&S management system, to achieve improvements in overall occupational health and safety performances, in line with the organization's OH&S policy

NOTE The process need not take place in all areas of activity simultaneously.

3.4

hazard

source or situation with a potential for harm in terms of human injury or ill health, damage to property, damage to the workplace environment, or a combination of these

3.5

hazard identification

process of recognizing that a **hazard** (see 3.4) exists and defining its characteristics

3.6

incident

event that gave rise to an accident or had the potential to lead to an accident

NOTE An incident where no ill health, injury, damage, or other loss occurs is also referred to as a "near-miss". The term "incident" includes "near-misses".

3.7

interested parties

individual or group concerned with or affected by the OH&S performance of an organization

3.8

nonconformance

any deviation from work standards, practices, procedures, regulations, management system performance etc. that could either directly or indirectly lead to injury or illness, property damage, damage to the workplace environment, or a combination of these

3.9

objectives

goals, in terms of OH&S performance, that an organization sets itself to achieve

NOTE Objectives should be quantified wherever practicable.

3.10

occupational health and safety

conditions and factors that affect the well-being of employees, temporary workers, contractor personnel, visitors and any other person in the workplace

3.11

OH&S management system

part of the overall management system that facilitates the management of the OH&S risks associated with the business of the organization. This includes the organizational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources for developing, implementing, achieving, reviewing and maintaining the organization's OH&S policy

3.12

organization

company, operation, firm, enterprise, institution or association, or part thereof, whether incorporated or not, public or private, that has its own functions and administration

NOTE For organizations with more than one operating unit, a single operating unit may be defined as an organization.

3.13 performance

measurable results of the OH&S management system, related to the organization's control of health and safety risks, based on its OH&S policy and objectives

NOTE Performance measurement includes measurement of OH&S management activities and results.

3.14 risk

combination of the likelihood and consequence(s) of a specified hazardous event occurring

3.15 risk assessment

overall process of estimating the magnitude of risk and deciding whether or not the risk is tolerable

3.16 safety

freedom from unacceptable risk of harm [ISO/IEC Guide 2]

3.17 tolerable risk

risk that has been reduced to a level that can be endured by the organization having regard to its legal obligations and its own OH&S policy

4 OH&S management system elements

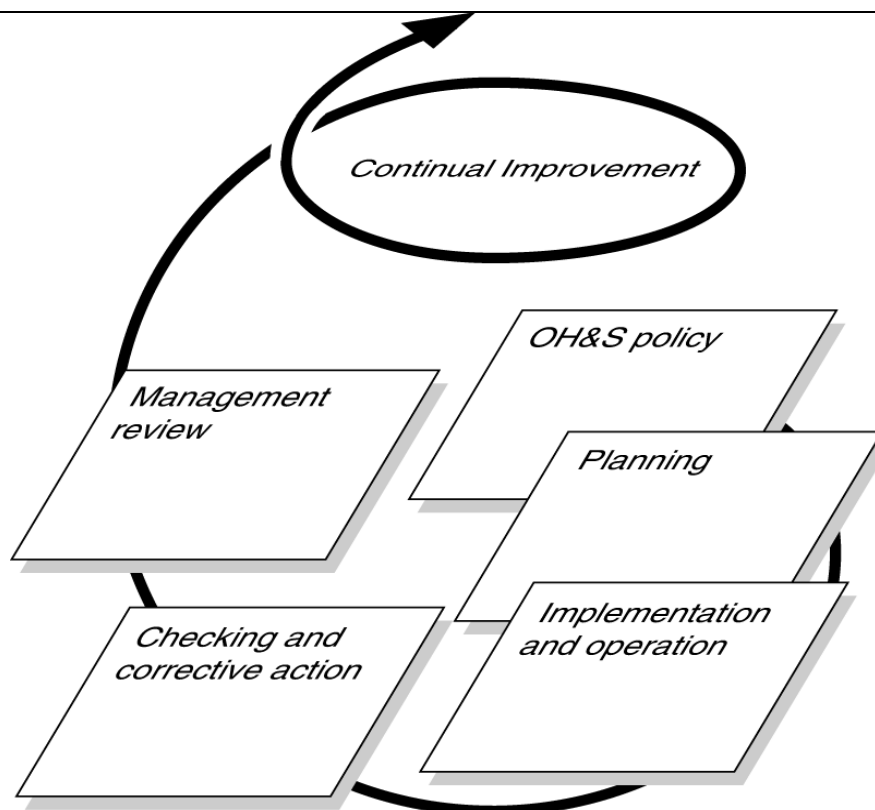


Figure 1 — Elements of successful OH&S management