

BS 45002-0:2018



BSI Standards Publication

Occupational health and safety management systems

Part 0: General guidelines for the application of ISO 45001

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The British Standards Institution 2018

Published by BSI Standards Limited 2018

ISBN 978 0 580 92725 6

ICS 03.100.01; 13.100

The following BSI references relate to the work on this document:

Committee reference HS/1

Draft for comment 17/30334814 DC;

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date

Text affected

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, and inside front cover, pages i to ii, pages 1 to 23, an inside back cover and a back cover.

Foreword

Publishing information

This part of BS 45002 is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 March 2018. It was prepared by Technical Committee HS/1, *Occupational health and safety management*. A list of organizations represented on these committees can be obtained on request to their secretary.

Supersession

This British Standard, including its constituent parts, replaces BS OHSAS 18002:2008 and BS 18004:2008, which are withdrawn.

Use of this document

As a guide, this part of BS 45002 takes the form of guidance and recommendations. It should not be quoted as if it were a specification or a code of practice and claims of compliance cannot be made to it.

Presentational conventions

The guidance in this standard is presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Any recommendations are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “should”.

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Where words have alternative spellings, the preferred spelling of the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary is used (e.g. “organization” rather than “organisation”).

Websites referred to in this standard were last viewed on 1 February 2018.

Contractual and legal considerations

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

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

Introduction

An occupational health and safety (OH&S) management system can help an organization manage health and safety in the workplace for workers and other people affected by the organization's activities.

Organizations wishing to implement an OH&S management system for the first time, or generally improve OH&S performance, can use this document without direct reference to ISO 45001.

Organizations that wish to claim compliance with the requirements in ISO 45001 need to refer directly to ISO 45001 when using this document.

This British Standard provides a framework to help organizations successfully implement an OH&S management system based on ISO 45001, in a way that is proportionate to the organization's specific health and safety risks. For example, organizations with less complex and/or less hazardous operations often have a good idea of their main workplace risks whether there is an existing management system in place or not. ISO 45001 and this guidance provide a framework for managing OH&S risks in a more structured way and for identifying any gaps that need to be addressed.

ISO 45001, like other ISO management system standards, is based on the Plan – Do – Check – Act (PDCA) cycle and uses risk-based thinking as a method of identifying risks and opportunities in all parts of the cycle to improve performance and minimize negative outcomes.

The guidance needs to be followed in a way that reflects the hazards identified and their related OH&S risks, without adding unnecessary levels of complexity or cost. Similarly, this guidance recommends that organizations only create or store documented information if it is necessary for the effective establishment, implementation and maintenance of the OH&S management system, or required by law. When considering the supply chain, organizations need to note that smaller and/or less complex organizations can have less extensive documented information and still meet relevant requirements.

NOTE 1 For further guidance, see and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) guidance, Health and Safety Made Simple (<http://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/>).

NOTE 2 Under UK law, organizations cannot delegate legal responsibility for the day-to-day control of their OH&S risks even if third-party expertise, advice or services are used.

1 Scope

This British Standard describes the intent of individual clauses in ISO 45001 and provides guidance to help organizations implement an OH&S management system based on ISO 45001.

NOTE This British Standard does not add to, subtract from, or in any way modify the requirements of ISO 45001, nor does it prescribe mandatory approaches to implementation.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

NOTE Organizations can use this document without direct reference to ISO 45001, however, organizations that wish to claim conformity to ISO 45001 should refer directly to ISO 45001 when using this document.