

OHSAS 18001 OHSMS THIRD PARTY CERTIFICATION SCHEME

WHAT IS OHSAS 18001?

Occupational health and safety Management System

A occupational health and safety management system is a management system that focuses on driving and improving occupational health and safety performance through identifying, prioritizing and managing its occupational health and safety risk in its business operation. OHSAS 18001 requires organization to identify occupational health and safety requirements, establish policy, objectives and targets, determine significant occupational health and safety aspects, plan and control its operation, implement corrective actions and conduct management review. In essence, it consists of the following clauses,

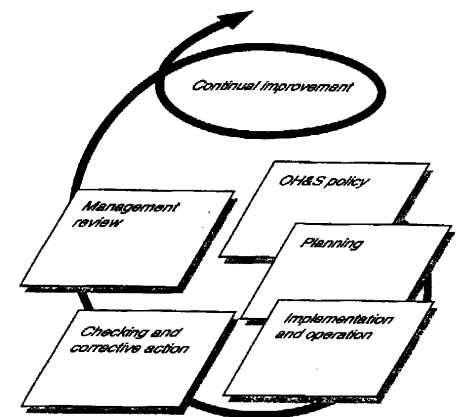
Clause 4.1	General requirements
Clause 4.2	Occupational health and safety policy
Clause 4.3	Planning
Clause 4.4	Implementation and operation
Clause 4.5	Checking
Clause 4.6	Management review

Compatibility

Based on the Deming PDCA (Plan-do-check-it) cycle, OHSAS 18001 has the same basic structure as other international management system standards such as ISO 9001 or ISO 14001. It offers a common framework for integrating different management systems.

WHY IS IT RELEVANT?

OHSAS 18001 is a requirement standard which means organizations can be certified to it. It is generic in nature and is applicable to organizations of various sizes and background.



OHSAS 18001 Process Model

Benefits

Apart from enhancement in creditability through third party certification, an effective OHSAS 18001 management system shall deliver the following inherent benefits,

- Sustained and improved occupational health and safety performance
- Platform for process and management control and improvement
- Reduction in accidents and near-misses and subsequent cost (eg health service cost and insurance premium)
- Facilitates legal compliance



HOW SHOULD WE PROCEED?

In order to capitalize the full offer of OHSAS 18001, organizations shall acquire an accurate understanding of the requirements and the intent of the standard. Perform a gap analysis to determine the status of the organization compared to the certification requirements. From top management to front line staff, all levels of staff shall acquire an appropriate level of understanding of the standard. Top management commitment is a critical success factor. Work on a realistic plan and not the least, ensure a strong buy-in from everybody.

i-VAC Certification offers a full range of improvement based OHSAS 18001 training courses and certification services to address your needs. Contact us at care@i-vac.com.