

# OHSAS 18001

How your organization will benefit

## Executive Briefing



As a leader, you have the duty to provide your workers with a safe working environment and a safe, well-engaged workforce is also a more productive workforce. Workplace accidents and sickness absences are important business issues and key indicators of how well an organization is managed.

To meet your strategic objectives, improve your business performance and grow, you need to have a robust Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) management system in place. OHSAS 18001 can help you achieve this.

## OHSAS 18001

OHSAS 18001 is the internationally-recognized management system standard that puts in place an effective and agile way of managing OH&S. Our clients tell us they have received the following benefits from certification, including\*:

- **78 percent** stays in compliance with regulations
- **61 percent** reduces business risk
- **57 percent** inspires trust in our business
- **55 percent** protects our business
- **53 percent** reduces the likelihood of mistakes

Despite a growing awareness of the importance of OH&S, there is no room for complacency. Recent figures on workplace related accidents reveal that\*\*:

- One worker dies every 15 seconds from a work-related accident or disease
- 153 workers have a work-related accident every 15 seconds
- There are 317 million work-related accidents per year

Here is where OHSAS 18001 can help make your organization safer.

### Boost your reputation

A poor track record in OH&S is bad news for any organization. You need to demonstrate to your interested parties that you are committed to the highest levels of OH&S. Certification to OHSAS 18001 helps you to publicly demonstrate you have a positive health and safety culture, differentiate your organization and put you in a strong position when competing for contracts.

### Improve productivity and achieve sustainable growth

When you want to focus on achieving strategic goals and growing your business, you need to ensure productivity levels support this. You need to minimize costly downtime and absenteeism caused by sickness and accidents. OHSAS 18001 helps you monitor and reduce workplace accidents and illness, which improves morale and creates a more productive and better engaged workforce.

### Reduce risk

Risk management should be a central part of any organizations' strategic management. If an OH&S risk manifests itself, you need to be confident that the appropriate stakeholders and workers know what response should be taken. OHSAS 18001 provides a system to identify OH&S hazards and minimize health and safety risks. This gives you greater clarity and could deliver other benefits such as lower insurance premiums.

### Be compliant and avoid fines

Organizations of all sizes must comply with a range of legal and regulatory requirements regarding OH&S. Unless you have an effective system in place, it can appear daunting, especially when new regulations are published. OHSAS 18001 requires you to take account of all relevant legal and regulatory requirements and commit to making sure you continue to meet them, avoiding costly fines or litigation.

Source: \*BSI Benefits survey - BSI Clients were asked which benefits they obtained from OHSAS 18001 certification \*\*ILO

BSI provides a unique combination of products and services to support the adoption of OHSAS 18001

**To find out more about how BSI can help you, visit: [bsigroup.com/en-US](https://bsigroup.com/en-US)**



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# Top tips on making **OHSAS 18001** effective for you

Every year we have interactions with tens of thousands of clients. Here are their top tips.

**Top management commitment** is key to making implementation of OHSAS 18001 a success. They need to be actively involved and approve the resources required.

“The earlier that you talk to senior managers, the better it will go, so have those discussions early.”  
Overbury, UK fit-out and refurbishment business

**Think about how different departments work together** to avoid silos. Make sure the organization works as a team for the benefit of customers and the organization.

“Independent assessment and certification to a recognized standard is an important way for us to clearly demonstrate our commitment to the safety of our employees and the wider community.”  
Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service

**Review systems, policies, procedures and processes** you have in place – you may already do much of what’s in the standard and make it work for your business. You shouldn’t be doing something just for the sake of the standard – it needs to add value.

“Don’t try and change your business to fit the standard. Think about how you do things and how the standard reflects on how you do it, rather than the other way around.”  
Overbury, UK fit-out and refurbishment business

**Speak to your customers and suppliers.** They may be able to suggest improvements and give feedback on your service.

“The BSI Assessor was very knowledgeable and thorough and this will help us achieve continual improvements.”  
Nippon Gohsei UK Ltd, synthetic chemical company

**Train your staff to carry out internal audits of the system.** This can help with their understanding, but it could also provide valuable feedback on potential problems or opportunities for improvement.

“The Internal Auditor course has allowed me to approach auditing with a new confidence”  
Landis+Gyr UK Ltd, metering solutions company

And finally, when you gain certification, celebrate your achievement and use the **BSI Assurance Mark** on your literature, website and promotional material.



**bsi.**

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