



Since the appearance of OHSAS 18001 in 1999, many organizations that have adopted its approach to OH&S management system, using it as a reference model to manage their hazards and risks. In becoming an ISO standard, OHSAS 18001 has evolved to meet the requirements of several stakeholders including the ILO, trade unions and other standardization bodies.

ISO 45001:2018 is now an internationally recognized standard, it's essential that all those involved in its use adapt their working environment and refine their criteria and competences to provide safe and healthy workplaces, preventing work-related injury and ill health, as well as proactively improving OH&S performance.

Transitioning to ISO 45001:2018

- OHSAS 18001 becomes ISO 45001:2018, OHSAS 18001 will be withdrawn, all companies certified to this standard will have a three-year migration period.
- ISO 45001:2018 is applicable to any organization regardless of size, type, activity
- ISO 45001:2018 pivots on the leadership and commitment of the management as well as the participation of workers
- ISO 45001:2018 applies the ISO unified high level structure (HL) as well as other standards of management systems.
- The context of the organization and participation of workers at all levels takes on special importance in ISO 45001:2018
- Operational control goes deeper into the Prioritization of Controls, Change Management, Acquisition of goods and subcontracting

Key Improvements and Changes in ISO 45001:2018

ISO 45001 is the new standard of Health and Safety at Work Management Systems, replacing the current OHSAS 18001. Having a robust and efficient Workplace Safety and Health Management System provides a more holistic approach in the management of health and safety risks, allowing a greater foresight of both workers and their company.

One of the key aspects in ISO 45001 is emphasizing the importance of promoting, developing and supporting a preventive culture in the organization through the leadership of senior management. Senior management supports the expected results of the management system and takes into consideration the knowledge, skills, and first-hand experience of workers, leading to better-informed decisions about workplace health and safety matters.

In addition to protecting the workforce, ISO 45001 also promotes the physical and mental health of the workforce. This is a huge step in recognizing that the mental health of the workforce can affect their ability to contribute to both the work environment and their community

With ISO 45001, the "worker" stands out, a concept that is extended to all people who carry out activities under the control of the organization. It also highlights the term "injury and deterioration of health", which includes the physical, mental and cognitive condition; and the difference between "consultation and participation", the first being a search for opinions and the second the involvement in decision making. Concepts of "Risk" and "Opportunities" are also introduced.

An example of leadership and commitment of the management and the context of organization and participation of workers at all levels is our customer. They are a global manufacturer servicing the auto & defense industries with over 10,000 users, 200 sites, 100K+ Safety Data Sheets and design & manufacturing operations in over 20 countries.

They needed to reduce operational costs while providing a high level of chemical management to its organization so they identified a global approach to chemical inventory management and regulatory compliance as a key cost-benefit opportunity.

They decided to look for a scalable, easy-to-use, cloud-based EHS platform to author and distribute their SDS, along with managing their chemical inventories and local regulatory compliance requirements across the 20+ countries where they have design & manufacturing operations.

Their search for a solution led them to the ***Chemwatch chemical management system*** as the Chemwatch framework is scalable, flexible, easy-to-use and enables users to build a customized EHS management platform with a choice of chemical management applications it address their business needs. With no programming or special interface required, this framework enables the seamless operation of a wide range of chemical management capabilities that operate as plug-and-play modules.

The cloud-based system and its data are hosted and managed using Amazon Web Services and as a result the customer now has a global view of their chemical data and can view and manage it from anywhere in the world. Furthermore, each site is able to access Safety Data Sheets and manage inventories in their country format and native tongue.

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