



FAQs – ISO 45001 occupational health & safety management system

Our experts answer frequently asked questions on the new international standard ISO 45001 which was published on 12th March 2018. Do you have any further questions?

[Make an appointment!](#)

1. WHAT'S NEW ABOUT ISO 45001?

All the required activities for the systematic implementation of legislation and requirements on occupational health & safety are now initiated and regulated top-down. The management tier of a company therefore expects occupational health & safety to assume a central role and be more heavily integrated into the processes.

Like the revised [ISO 9001](#) standards for quality management and [ISO 14001](#) for environmental management, [ISO 45001](#) follows what is referred to as 'high level structure'. The new ISO 45001 standard will explicitly facilitate the efforts of companies to bring together all relevant aspects in the fields of quality, occupational health and safety and environmental protection, for example, in one management system. The improved standard structure permits a standardized application of terminology as well as a simplifica-

tion of the interpretation of requirements of the relevant management system. Thus, the new ISO 45001 also offers a combination certification with other standards.

In addition, the new ISO 45001 explicitly takes account of completely outsourced processes as well as persons who are not permanently employed but who are under the responsibility of the company.

2. FOR WHICH COMPANIES IS A CERTIFICATION ACCORDING TO THE NEW STANDARD APPROPRIATE?

The current [OHSAS 18001](#) certification is suitable for any company in any industry. This will not change with the new international ISO 45001 standard. If you wish to permanently reduce the occupational health & safety-related risks for your employees, visitors as well as suppliers and service providers, have your health & safety management certified!

3. WHAT DOES AN ISO 45001 CERTIFICATION SPECIFICALLY ENTAIL?

The aim of an occupational health & safety management system which is ISO 45001-certified is to reduce the risk

of injuries and illness in the workplace and where possible to avoid them entirely. You will therefore benefit from the opportunity to bring your strategic direction in line with your occupational health & safety management system. Furthermore, ISO 45001 emphasizes the responsibility of top management and thus extends beyond the scope of employee training.

4. WHEN WAS ISO 45001 PUBLISHED?

The finalized standard was published on 12th March 2018. After the first draft of ISO 45001 (Draft International Standard – DIS) was rejected in May 2016, a second version was drafted and subsequently accepted in July 2017. In September 2017, the international committee on standards reviewed the results of their vote before releasing a Final Draft at the end of November 2017.

5. WILL THE NEW ISO 45001 STANDARD SUPERSEDE THE CURRENT OHSAS 18001 CERTIFICATION?

With the publication on 18 January 2018 of IAF MD (IAF Mandatory Document) 21:2018, titled Requirements for the Migration to ISO 45001:2018 from OHSAS 18001:2007, the new ISO 45001 standard is now confirmed to be replacing the older OHSAS 18001 norm. Companies are granted a three-year transition period starting from the standard’s publication date until March 2021.

6. HOW WILL CERTIFICATES BE CONVERTED/ISSUED?

Companies certified against OHSAS 18001 may use the transition period to migrate their existing management

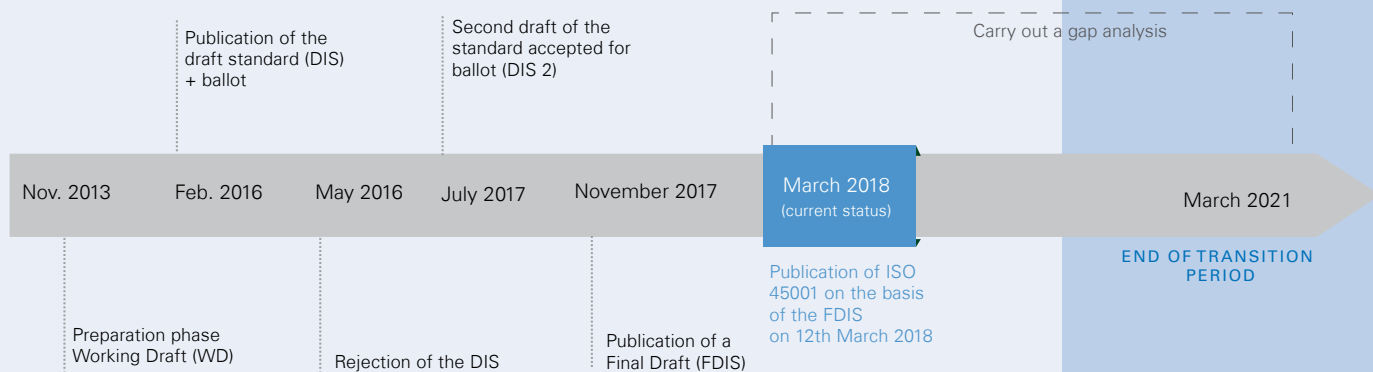
systems to ISO 45001, for example in the context of a previously planned audit. This typically requires an additional day of auditing. Furthermore, certification bodies for these audits must meet all the requirements of IAF MD 22:2018, published in January under the title Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for the Certification of Page 29 of 39 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OH&SMS). This may also affect the length and procedure of the audit.

Now is a good time to start familiarizing yourself with the requirements of ISO 45001. This allows you to effectively estimate the effort involved in the upcoming changeover. Feel free to take advantage of a gap analysis now to get started with your planning as early as possible. Contact us!

7. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE NEW ISO 45001 CERTIFICATION?

You can reduce the number of accidents in the workplace using a systematic approach to aspects of occupational health & safety with ISO 45001 certification from us regardless of your industry or the size of your company. Sources of errors are identified and eliminated. You can therefore ensure your compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements for occupational health & safety protection. In addition, you will increase awareness surrounding safety as well as the levels of motivation and qualifications of your employees, suppliers and service providers as well as enhancing your good name with clients, suppliers, authorities and investors as a safe and reputable company.

TIMETABLE OF ISO 45001



8. WHAT SETS ISO 45001 APART FROM OTHER HEALTH & SAFETY CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS?

ISO 45001 certification is an international recognition of a health & safety management system for every company in every industry. The SCC (Safety Certificate Contractors), on the other hand, is only valid for subcontractors in industry, the SCP certificate (Safety Certificate Personnel Leasing) is only valid for HR service providers and the SCCP Certificate (Safety Certificate Contractors for Petrochemicals) is only valid for service providers within the petrochemicals industry. Alongside these specializations, ISO 45001 is a universal solution for certified occupational and health & safety management at an international level.

9. WHAT SIGNIFICANCE DOES OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY HAVE TODAY?

Increasing competitive pressure and ever-faster response times mean that there is no longer any room for error for companies today. Industrial accidents and downtime usually lead to disruption to the production and supply process and can in the worst case scenario result in order cancellations. An occupational health & safety system will allow you to demonstrably reduce the number of accidents through a systematic approach to aspects of health & safety.

DO YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT OCCUPATIONAL PROTECTION OR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY? PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

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