OHSAS 18001 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
AUDIT, CERTIFICATION & TRAINING SERVICES
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WHAT MAKES YOUR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SYSTEMS BEST-IN-CLASS?

OHSAS 18001 AUDIT, CERTIFICATION & TRAINING SERVICES FROM SGS

Sound occupational health and safety policies are first and foremost essential for employees, but they are also important for customers and other stakeholders. In addition, stricter legislation demands that organisations demonstrate a clear and pro-active commitment towards the health and safety of their employees. OHSAS 18001:2007 certification is a strong sign of commitment to occupational health and safety and helps you stand out from the competition and deliver continuous improvement in the related management systems.

ABOUT OHSAS 18001:2007

OHSAS 18001:2007 is the internationally recognised assessment specification for occupational health and safety management systems. It was developed by leading industry bodies and international standards and certification bodies to address a gap where no third-party certifiable international standard exists. It enables organisations to manage operational risks and improve performance. It also provides guidance on how to manage the health and safety aspects of your business activities more effectively, while taking into careful consideration accident prevention, risk reduction and the well-being of your employees.

OHSAS 18001:2007 addresses the following key areas:

- Hazard identification, risk assessment and determining controls;
- Legal and other requirements;
- Objectives and OHS programme(s);
- Resources, roles, responsibility, accountability and authority;
- Competence, training and awareness;
- Communication, participation and consultation;
- Operational control;
- Emergency preparedness and response; and
- Performance measuring, monitoring and improvement.

THE BENEFITS

Many organisations are implementing an Occupational Health and Safety Management System (OHSMS), through OHSAS 18001:2007 certification, as part of their risk management strategy to address changing legislation and protect their workforce. An OHSMS promotes a safe and healthy working environment by providing a framework that allows organisations to consistently identify and control their health and safety risks, reduce the potential for accidents, aid legislative compliance and improve overall performance.

OHSAS 18001:2007 certification can positively improve the efficiency of internal operations and consequently reduce accidents, danger and downtime. Employee safety and the quality of the working environment are actively improved because objectives and responsibilities are made clearer and all employees are prepared to effectively deal with future hazards. OHSAS 18001:2007 assists compliance with current legal requirements, reducing the risk of penalties or possible litigation.

The OHSAS 18001:2007 certification from SGS enables you to demonstrate high levels of occupational health and safety when bidding for international contracts, expanding locally to accommodate new business, or negotiating insurance premiums. Regular assessments help you to continually use, monitor and improve your OHSMS and related processes. This improves the reliability of your internal operations to meet customer requirements, as well as overall performance. You may also gain a significant improvement in staff motivation and commitment and understanding of their responsibility in helping ensure workplace safety.

THE 2007 UPDATE

In 2005, the OHSAS Working Group started the process of revising OHSAS 18001. The OHSAS 18001:2007 standard, published on 1 July 2007, is more results-oriented than the previous version and it is better aligned with ISO 9001 and ISO 14001. This further encourages management systems integration and increases interest in OHSAS 18001:2007 certification.

HOW DOES THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS WORK?

The OHSAS 18001:2007 certification process consists of six steps:

- Step A – SGS provides you with a proposal based on the size and nature of your organisation. You can then proceed with the audit by accepting the proposal.
- Step B – You may ask SGS to perform a ‘pre-audit’ to give an indication of the readiness of your organisation for the audit. This stage is optional, yet it is often found useful in identifying any weaknesses in your systems and in building confidence before the formal audit.
- Step C – The first part of the formal audit is the ‘Stage 1 – Readiness Review’. This lets us evaluate the compliance of your documented system with the requirements of the standard to better understand the nature of your organisation, to plan the rest of the audit as effectively as possible and to initially examine key elements of the system. You will receive a report after this stage identifying any concerns or observed non-compliances so that you can take immediate action if required.
- Step D – This is ‘Stage 2’ of the initial audit process. The audit includes interviews with you and your
Observation of your working practices determines how compliant your actual processes are with the standard and with your own documentation system. At the end of this stage, we will present the findings of the audit classified as either major or minor non-conformances along with other observations and opportunities for improvement. Once you have addressed the non-conformities, a technical review of the audit will then be conducted by an authorised SGS Certification Manager to confirm the issuance of a certificate.

- Step E – Our surveillance visits will be scheduled at either six or twelve month intervals depending on the contract. During the visits, we review the implementation of the action plan addressing the past non-conformities and examine certain mandatory and other selected parts of the system in line with an audit plan that we provide you before each visit.

- Step F – Shortly before the third anniversary of the initial certification, our routine visit will be extended to enable a re-certification audit. Surveillance visits will then continue, as before, on a 3-year cycle.

OHSAS 18001:2007 CERTIFICATION PROCESS

OHSAS 18001:2007;  
• OHSAS 18001:2007 Internal Auditor Course;  
• OHSAS 18001:2007 Lead Auditor Course;  
• Auditor Conversion to OHSAS 18001:2007; and  
• Implementing OHSAS 18001:2007.

Please visit www.sgs.com/training to view the OHSAS 18001:2007 course schedules in your region.

OHSAS 18001:2007 RELATED TRAINING

We offer a wide variety of training courses for all levels of ability and awareness. Our OHSAS 18001:2007 training course portfolio is designed to meet the requirements of any organisation using OHSAS 18001:2007, and includes:

- Introduction & Awareness to OHSAS 18001:2007;  
- OHSAS 18001:2007 Internal Auditor Course;  
- OHSAS 18001:2007 Lead Auditor Course;  
- Auditor Conversion to OHSAS 18001:2007; and  

WHY SGS?

SGS is the world’s leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. Recognised as the global benchmark for quality and integrity, we employ over 59 000 people and operate a network of more than 1 000 offices and laboratories around the world. We are constantly looking beyond customers’ and society’s expectations in order to deliver market leading services wherever they are needed.

Partnering with SGS opens the door to better performing processes, increasingly skilful talent, consistent and compliant supply chains and more sustainable customer relationships delivering profitable competitive advantage. Work with the global leader and take your commitment to the next level.

We have a history of undertaking and successfully executing large-scale, complex international projects. With a presence in every single region around the globe, our people speak the language and understand the culture of the local market and operate globally in a consistent, reliable and effective manner.

TO LEARN HOW SGS CAN HELP YOU EXCEED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS, VISIT WWW.SGS.COM/OHSAS18001 OR CONTACT CERTIFICATION@SGS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.