

# TUV USA – Preparation of ISO 45001:201X



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## Current situation

The International Labor Organization (ILO), revealed in 2014 that every year, 2.34 million employees throughout the world lose their lives due to accidents in the workplace.

The introduction of an occupational health and safety management system is intended to enable an organization to manage health and safety risks and improve its health and safety performance with regard to prevention of injury and illness.

British Standard BS OHSAS 18001:2007 together with the associated Guide, OHSAS 18002, has up to now provided the basis for development and maintenance of the internationally recognized occupational health and safety management system. OHSAS 18001 is similarly structured to other widely used international standards for management systems – such as for quality (ISO 9001) and the environment (ISO 14001).

The technical committees of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) already published the revised versions of ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 in September 2015. The new International Standard for occupational health and safety management systems, ISO 45001, was expected to follow in October 2016. In the meantime, publication has been postponed until February 2018, and depending on the need for further modifications to the Final Draft of the International Standard (FDIS), the standard may in fact only appear in March 2018.

Since mid-2013, ISO 45001 has been under development



for Standardization. This new standard is intended to replace British Standard BS OHSAS 18001:2007. by working group ISO/PC 283 of the International Organization

## Changes and effects expected in 2017

Following the publication of ISO 45001, British Standard BS OHSAS 18001 from 2007 is set to be withdrawn by the standard holder, the British Standards Institution (BSI). Publication of ISO 45001:2017 is planned for February 2018.

The initial Draft International Standard (DIS) of ISO 45001 was published in March 2016 and was rejected by the ISO member states in the internal working group in June of the same year. Following a revision process, a second DIS of ISO 45001 has been under discussion in the relevant committees since May 2017 and the final decision on acceptance of this second DIS is planned for September 2017. Publication of the final and binding version of ISO 45001 is expected for February 2018 or, if there should be a need for additional discussion and agreement of the FDIS, for the second quarter of 2018.

## Timeline



# Fact Sheet

In order that ISO 45001 can be used as a practical basis for certification, supplementary rules are being prepared by ISO. Some of these are already available in draft form:

- Certificates according to BS OHSAS 18001:2007 are expected to become invalid 3 years after publication of ISO 45001:201X
- The expiry date of existing certifications according to OHSAS 18001:2007 is expected to be at the end of this 3-year changeover period
- Regarding the audit time needed for transition of an existing certification to the new ISO 45001: the time needed for the changeover has not yet been clarified.

The aim is to ensure uninterrupted and seamless certification for organizations who already hold certificates.

The procedure will have to be coordinated and defined between the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the British Standards Institution (BSI) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), as well as at national level by the official German accreditation body Deutsche Akkreditierungsstelle GmbH (DAkkS).

When the IAF confirms the new ISO 45001 as the basis of certification, the companies which are certified to BS OHSAS 18001:2007 will have to change over their occupational health and safety management systems.

For these companies which are already certified to OHSAS 18001, the following questions therefore arise:

- What changes are to be expected in the new ISO 45001?
- What must be considered during the transition to ISO 45001?

## Structure of ISO 45001:201X

### High Level Structure

It is already known that the new ISO 45001 will follow the so-called "High Level Structure":

- identical structure for all management systems
- same use of core texts and terms
- standards are easier to understand
- more efficient implementation of integrated management systems



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## Changes to content

The 2nd Draft, DIS ISO 45001:2017-06, already gives a reliable indication of the content of the final standard. Although there may be further changes before publication of the final version of ISO 45001, the ISO/DIS 45001:2017-06 working document gives an insight into the changes that will probably result for users.

It is already clear that the new ISO 45001 will continue to be based on the Plan-Do-Check-Act model, as was already the case for BS OHSAS 18001:2007.

Starting from the new ISO framework for the development of international management system standards, greater emphasis is placed on the context of the organization.

The second change to be expected relates to the greater role of top management. Occupational health and safety should become central aspects of the entire management system, and this requires consistent top management commitment.

A further new aspect will be that the organization has to identify and clearly describe the opportunities for improvement of occupational health and safety in a separate process.

Integration of the OH&S management system into the overall ISO management system is made easier by the fact that the new ISO 45001 will have the same structure as the ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 standards.

# Fact Sheet

## Detailed consideration of the individual clauses

The significant changes within individual clauses of ISO 45001 are described in more detail below:

### Context of the organization

Organizations must identify all external and internal aspects that have a significant impact on achievement of their occupational health and safety management objectives.

This could mean that the company has to look beyond its own employees and consider working conditions all along the supply chain. As safety risks cannot be outsourced, working conditions for contractors working for the company on site and suppliers will have to be taken into consideration.

### Leadership and obligations

The requirements for inclusion of management in the responsibility for occupational health and safety have been extended. Top management has to demonstrate leadership and commitment to occupational health and safety management by integrating the protection of health and safety in the workplace more strongly into processes, instead of merely delegating.

### Participation and consultation

The organization shall ensure that the prerequisites for participation and consultation of the employees and (if applicable) their representatives, if any, with regard to decisions pertaining to the OH&S management system.

### Opportunities from occupational health and safety

In the future, organizations will have to install a process for identifying opportunities for the improvement of occupational health and safety. Such opportunities can arise from:

- organizational changes
- elimination of occupational health and safety risks in the workplace
- adaptation of the working conditions to the needs of employees



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### Conclusion for the users of ISO 45001

Today, new aspects – such as context of the organization, changed emphasis in various areas, management responsibility, and identification of opportunities for improvement of occupational health and safety are already part of everyday life in many organizations. In future, they will be the requirements of a global standard which will apply to all. Most users of the current BS OHSAS 18001:2007 standard therefore do not have to be concerned about the changeover to ISO 45001:201X.

The new requirements will certainly involve some additional time and effort. But in the end it will be worthwhile. The fact that ISO 45001 points towards the future is definitely a positive challenge for users when it comes to the economically successful and sustainable development of their organizations.

### The ten main clauses of ISO 45001

1. Scope
2. Normative references
3. Terms and definitions
4. Context of the organization
5. Leadership and worker participation
6. Planning
7. Support
8. Operations
9. Performance evaluation
10. Improvement

**Further information and a download are available at**  
[www.tuv-nord.com/us/en/quality-systems/iso-certification/iso-45001/](http://www.tuv-nord.com/us/en/quality-systems/iso-certification/iso-45001/)

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