

ISO 45001:2018 – Planning

The International Organization of Standardization (ISO) publishes the ISO 45001:2018 standard, *Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OHSMS) – Requirements with guidance for use*. ISO 45001:2018 is the world's international standard for occupational safety and health (S&H). The aim of the standard is to provide a healthy and safe working environment to drive solutions to improve organizational safety performance, assess and eliminate risk, and increase productivity.

Planning is a clause within the ISO 45001:2018 standard. This clause ensures your organization has a plan in place for continually assessing the OHSMS, identifying OHSMS issues and opportunities, and prioritizing these issues. It is critical as it impacts OHSMS operation and performance.

Planning promotes preparing for OHSMS implementation and sustainment through:

- Consideration of the context of the organization, interested parties, and scope of the OHSMS
- Processes to determine and address organizational risks, hazards, legal requirements, and opportunities in respect to the OHSMS
- Ongoing hazard identification processes to support OHSMS implementation and sustainment
- Assessment of OHSMS risks and evaluation of existing controls put into place
- Continual capture of OHSMS opportunities to eliminate hazards and reduce risks
- Access to legal requirements affecting the organization and communication of these requirements
- Documentation of action plans
- Establishment of S&H objectives to promote continuous improvement of the OHSMS
- Plans to carry out and achieve established S&H objectives.

Planning is an important part of any OHSMS, as it prepares for how the organization will implement the OHSMS, execute supporting processes and procedures, and integrate safety and health into existing processes. An emphasis on planning can help the organization consider risk factors and seek input from workers to ensure the planned processes and procedures will be feasible and effective.

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