

ISO 45001:2018 – Improvement

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.

Improvement is a clause within the ISO 45001:2018 standard. This clause encourages organizations to recognize ongoing opportunities for improvement within the OHSMS. Improving the OHSMS helps organizations ensure they are on track to achieve intended outcomes and expectations of the OHSMS. This clause relies on the execution and evaluation of OHSMS processes to improve performance.



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Improvement ensures OHSMS enhancements are a continual process through:

- Determination of improvement opportunities and actions needed for OHSMS implementation and sustainment
- Establishment of incident reporting and investigation processes
- Initiation of actions to identify organizational risks and prevent recurrence of incidents
- Employment of corrective actions to address incidents and other nonconformities related to the OHSMS
- Continual improvement of the OHSMS through:
 - The organization's safety culture
 - Worker participation
 - Communication of S&H information
 - Document maintenance and retention
 - Organizational S&H performance improvements.

For a successful OHSMS, your organization must make continual improvements. As your organization and its safety culture changes, so must the OHSMS. Over time, certain aspects of the OHSMS may excel, while others periodically need revamped, making it important to continually identify how to improve the OHSMS.

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