

SLAB POLICY ON TRANSITION TO ISO 45001: 2018

Transition to ISO 45001: 2018

SLAB accredited and applicant Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OHSMS) certification Bodies are required to comply with the requirements of this policy commencing 1st January 2019. The new ISO 45001:2018 standard was published on the 12th March 2018 and will replace OHSAS 18001: 2007. The agreed transition period is 3 years from the date of publication and this means that all OHSMS Certification Bodies will need to have successfully transferred to the new standard within 3 years from the publication date.

As per the SLAB policy on transition, accreditation granted as per OHSAS 18001: 2007 would not be valid after 12th March 2021.

OHSMS Certification Bodies (CB) shall develop migration plans to address the following:

i) Training and verification of competence of auditors and other staff;

CBs shall note that ISO/CASCO WG 48 has developed ISO/IEC TS 17021-10 addressing specific competence requirements for auditing and certification to an OHSMS. Furthermore, it is to be noted that IAF MD 22 on OH&SMS is also available to be used for all ISO 45001:2018 accreditation activities.

ii) The CB's arrangements for communicating with its clients;

iii) The CB's arrangements for auditing conformity to the new standard. For example, will it be a single visit or a staged approach.

iv) How the CB will ensure clients' ongoing conformity to OHSAS 18001: 2007 through the migration process.

v) Action to be taken in respect of clients that have failed to complete the migration by three years after the publication of ISO 45001:2018. For example, the level of audit necessary for certification to be restored.

In addition, the following are also applicable for this transition.

1. SLAB is ready to carry out assessments against ISO 45001:2018 after 1st February 2019.
2. SLAB does not accept applications against OHSAS 18001: 2007 after 1st February 2019.
3. All assessments of new applicants (pre-assessments/initial assessments) and SLAB accredited OHSMS Certification Bodies (surveillance assessments/re-assessments) will be conducted in accordance with ISO 45001:2018 from 1st February 2019 onwards as per their assessment schedules.

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4. OHSMS Certification Bodies whose applications were accepted as per OHSAS 18001: 2007 and pending as on 1st February 2019 will be granted accreditation as per OHSAS 18001: 2007 up to 12th March 2020.

Any Application pending on 12th March 2020 shall have to demonstrate compliance to ISO 45001:2018 to be accredited after 12th March 2020.

Accreditation will not be granted as per OHSAS 18001: 2007 after 12th March 2020.

5. OHSMS Certification Bodies granted accreditation as per OHSAS 18001: 2007 before 12th March 2020 shall undergo surveillance assessment to demonstrate their compliance to ISO 45001:2018 as per their normal assessment schedules and complete the process of surveillance assessment on or before 12th January 2021.

SLAB accredited OHSMS Certification Bodies shall be fully compliant with the requirements of the standard ISO 45001:2018 by 11th March 2021.

6. Any exception to the above policy may be granted on a specific request from an OHSMS Certification Body. However, in line with IAF's Resolution, such an OHSMS Certification Body shall have to demonstrate compliance to ISO 45001:2018 by 11th March 2021.

The accreditation of any OHSMS Certification Body which fails to demonstrate compliance to ISO 45001:2018 by 11th March 2021 shall be placed under temporarily suspension for a maximum of 03 months. Failure to comply with ISO 45001:2018 by the end of this period would result in withdrawal of accreditation.

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