

Unit 2

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Chapter 2.2

Hazardous materials and Welfare- ISO 45001:2018 occupational health and safety (OH&S):

ISO 45001:2018 is an international standard that outlines the requirements for an effective Occupational Health and Safety Management System (OH&SMS). It is designed to help organizations establish, implement, and maintain a system that promotes a safe and healthy working environment and prevents work-related injuries and illnesses. The standard emphasizes the identification and control of hazards, compliance with legal requirements, and continuous improvement in occupational health and safety performance.

Here are key elements related to health, safety, hazardous materials, and welfare covered by ISO 45001:2018:

1. Health and Safety Management System:

- ISO 45001 provides a framework for establishing an OH&SMS to identify, assess, and control occupational health and safety risks.
- It emphasizes a proactive approach to prevent injuries and ill-health, rather than merely reacting to incidents.

2. Leadership and Worker Participation:

- The standard requires top management to demonstrate leadership and commitment to the OH&SMS. This includes ensuring the integration of health and safety into the organization's overall business processes.
- Worker participation is encouraged to involve employees in health and safety decision-making processes.

3. Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment, and Control:

- ISO 45001 requires organizations to systematically identify hazards, assess associated risks, and implement controls to eliminate or minimize risks.

- It emphasizes a hierarchy of controls, starting with elimination and substitution and progressing to engineering controls, administrative controls, and personal protective equipment (PPE).

4. Legal and Other Requirements:

- Organizations are required to identify and keep abreast of applicable legal requirements and other requirements related to occupational health and safety.
- Compliance with these requirements is integral to the OH&SMS.

5. Documented Information:

- ISO 45001 emphasizes the importance of maintaining documented information to support the effective operation of the OH&SMS. This includes policies, procedures, and records.

6. Emergency Preparedness and Response:

- Organizations must establish and maintain processes for emergency preparedness and response to potential occupational health and safety incidents.

7. Performance Monitoring and Measurement:

- The standard requires the monitoring and measurement of OH&S performance using indicators such as incident rates, compliance with legal requirements, and effectiveness of controls.

8. Continuous Improvement:

- ISO 45001 promotes a culture of continuous improvement. Organizations are required to regularly assess their OH&S management system performance and take actions to enhance it.

9. Welfare and Hazardous Materials:

- While ISO 45001 does not explicitly focus on welfare aspects, its broader scope encompasses factors that contribute to worker well-being. This includes provisions related to work environment, mental health, and overall occupational health.
- Hazardous materials are addressed through the hazard identification, risk assessment, and control measures specified in the standard.