

## **EQA Health & Safety Scheme Regulations**

**This document is Supplemental to the EQA Scheme Regulations. It is designed to cover the extra requirements for ISO 45001:2018 (including OHSAS 18001:2007) Certification.**

### **Health & Safety Legislation:**

1. Organisations are expected to include a commitment to comply with all relevant Health & Safety legislation within their Safety Policy. Failure to meet this commitment or failure to take action to meet this commitment within a reasonable time frame will result in suspension and/or withdrawal of certification by EQA.
2. The European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) have issued a guidance document on what is expected of a certification body auditing legal compliance as part of an accredited ISO 14001 Environmental Management System audit ([Link](#)).

EA have not yet developed an equivalent document for Occupational Health and Safety. As there is very close correlation between the clauses of ISO 14001 and ISO 45001:2018(including OHSAS 18001) and the requirements for legal compliance are similar, EQA will follow similar principles when auditing ISO 45001:2018 management systems for legal compliance. EQA follow MD 22:2018 for managing legal compliance in relation to ISO 45001:2018 audits and compliance companies.

3. Organisations are obliged to inform EQA of any convictions or penalties imposed for breach of Occupational Health & Safety Legislation within 10 working days. EQA will conduct a review of the certification status based on the severity of the occurrence and any remedial actions which have been taken to rectify the situation.
4. Organisations are obliged to inform EQA of any litigious action being taken against them for breach of Health & Safety Legislation within 10 working days of the company becoming aware that such action has been commenced.

### **Incidents, Accidents and Emergency Situations:**

1. Organisations are obliged to inform EQA of any major incidents, accidents or emergency situations concerning their Occupational Health & Safety Management System within 10 working days of their occurrence.
2. Failure to notify EQA of major incidents, accidents or emergency situations may result in suspension or withdrawal of Certification and/or require a special visit to confirm on-going compliance.

### **Audit Interviewees:**

1. Organisations are obliged to make available the following personnel for interview during any Assessment, Surveillance or Re-assessment audit:
  - a. the management with legal responsibility for Occupational Health and Safety,
  - b. employees' representative(s) with responsibility for Occupational Health and Safety,

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- c. personnel responsible for monitoring employees' health, for example, doctors and nurses. Justifications in case of interviews conducted remotely shall be recorded,
  - d. managers and permanent and temporary employees.
2. Organisations will be requested to invite the above personnel to attend the Closing Meeting of any Assessment, Surveillance or Re-assessment audit. Where certain personnel are absent from this Closing Meeting, justification for their absence may be sought for inclusion with the audit report.