



Workplace Safety Safety Statements

The **Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005** requires all companies to have a Safety Statement (Safety Management System) in compliance with Section 20. The foundation of the Safety Statement lies in identifying hazards, and assessing risks associated with the company's activities.

The risks to your organisation from failing to manage workplace health and safety are significant at a time when workplace injuries are high and legislative requirements increasing. In many instances, such failures arise from lack of knowledge and systems to manage health and safety rather than deliberate actions of managers or directors.

The most effective way to manage health and safety risks is to implement an Occupational Health & Safety Management system. These systems give a sound foundation to the management of risk. Whether a decision is made to adopt a formalised system or not, it is advisable to work towards **OHSAS 18001**, the recognised standard of Occupational Health & Safety Management.

OHSAS 18001 is based on the principle of risk management, and is modelled on the ISO series of international standards. It can be easily integrated with other risk management systems. The advantage of working to this standard is that if, in future, you wish to seek accreditation to **ISO 18001**, foundation for such accreditation is in place.

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