

How “Apps” can make ISO 45001 work for everyone

The core elements of the standard concern “context” and “leadership” and “workers participation”. The scope of the OH&S management system and its requirements is covered by clauses relating to planning, support, communication, operation, performance evaluation and improvement.

In order to fulfil the requirements and achieve the intended outcomes of its OHSMS an organisation needs to create two-way exchange to provide workers with information, and allow for consultation, and to assess both risks and the opportunities identified through the operation of its OH&S processes.

Technology may provide a simple, universally applicable, creative and innovative solution to enable organisations to store this information and feedback through the provision of specialised apps.

Barriers to communication can be created by differences in language, culture, literacy, training, experience and gender. In addition, there may be institutional organisational failings such as worker intimidation and retribution for whistle blowing.

The provision of both generalised and customised apps can break down those barriers and provide a simple visual (or audio) assessment of what is happening real-time in the workplace. Hazard and risks can be observed and relayed instantaneously to a communications hub that can access expert diagnosis and fault finding.

The time and cost saving could be enormous. Such eyes-on technology will circumvent any tendencies to cover up faults, for example a simple relayed photograph of unguarded machinery, inadequate PPE, dangerous access practises, can be a valuable life saving device.

Whilst it stops bad practice it also can be instrumental in preventing and accidents and incidents whilst ensuring the health and safety and well-being of workers and the needs and expectations of other interested parties.

The recording and storage retrieval of such information, perhaps in a cloud data base, could provide easy access for necessary monitoring and recording. It could provide a simple comparison to evaluate performance and measure improvement.

These applications could also support and inform accident investigation and reporting. When underwriters and insurers begin to be alerted to the potential to limit their risk exposure, it is likely that they will make such devices and surveys conditional to providing insurance cover for organisations.

Interested in apps for you, register <https://www.imsglobalstandards.com/>

