



Promote occupational health and safety, reduce organizational risk and protect workers with ISO 45001 certification from SGS

ISO 45001 CERTIFICATION FOR GLOBAL OIL AND GAS BUSINESS

CASE STUDY

BE THE BENCHMARK

SGS

Accredited certification to International Health and Safety Management System standard ISO 45001 from SGS has, in effect, rubber-stamped READ Cased Hole's commitment to health and safety in a sector where it is so vital.

READ Cased Hole is a global leader in the field of production logging, well integrity, reservoir evaluation and data analysis in the oil and gas industry. In both offshore and onshore operations, READ Cased Hole's tools can be used to measure the integrity of the steel casings installed within oil and gas wells throughout their lifetime, using both electronic and ultrasonic techniques to monitor and establish their condition. Processes and environments are invariably harsh.

Headquartered in Aberdeen, the company is engaged by operators or conveyancing subcontractors to run electric wireline tools, from drilling to production monitoring down the wells. READ's field engineering teams work around the world, from the sub-arctic conditions in Alaska to the searing heat of the Middle East, with their tools being shipped to site when required. READ's ANSA business completes the process by providing clients with independent, high quality data analysis and interpretation.



Ian Kerr Global QHSE Manager for READ Cased Hole and Andy Morrell Regional Development Manager for Scotland

WHY READ CASED HOLE SOUGHT CERTIFICATION

The company had been certified to ISO 9001 in 1998, as well as OHSAS 18001 (the global occupational safety and health standard), gained in 2006. A new standard – ISO 45001 – was introduced in March 2018, with which organizations already certified to OHSAS 18001 like READ Cased Hole were given three years to comply.

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WHY SGS?

SGS was the auditing partner when READ Cased Hole first gained certification to ISO 9001 in 1998 and has continued to carry out both the annual maintenance and three-yearly re-certification audits ever since.

Global QHSE Manager Ian Kerr admits that he reviewed alternative auditing organizations for the new safety and health standard, but decided to stay with SGS for several reasons:

There was a familiarity and continuity that had built up since the initial ISO 9001 certification 21 years previously. This was reflected in SGS' in-depth knowledge of the company and sector. Ian had confidence in SGS' high standards and thorough approach, essential in a sector with such stringent health and safety requirements. This is supported by SGS' United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) accreditation, which some of its competitors do not hold.

IMPLEMENTING ISO 45001: THE PROCESS

Certification to the new standard coincided with UK re-certification to ISO 9001. All of the latest versions of ISO standards are designed to integrate with each other, a key benefit to organizations that are approaching multiple standards at the same time or have already experienced certification in at least one. All share a simple Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) model.

According to Ian Kerr, this – as well as READ's excellent existing health and safety regime and documentation and long experience of OHSAS 18001 audits – made the process relatively straightforward.

Ian comments: "The auditing process was very similar to OHSAS 18001. Some elements are different, mainly around the focus shifting more to leadership and communications, as well as health and safety management. ISO have improved some of the elements in this way, but the basic principles remain the same."

The audit itself was carried out over four days. Ian had been briefed on the procedure by SGS in advance, including which teams auditor William Thom needed to speak to and which processes he needed to review. In an organization in which a large proportion of employees are working in the field, one of the main challenges was to ensure availability of the relevant colleagues.

Ian also recalls that the whole area suffered a power cut during the auditor's visit. "While this was in progress, we had to resort to paper copies. However, these were readily available, and the fact that we have an active internal audit team ensured that everything was – as always – in place."

Commenting on how SGS was to work with leading up to and during the audit, Ian says: "The people I deal with are nice, genuine people. Over the years I have worked with four auditors, but have enjoyed a consistent approach. They have all been highly professional, knowledgeable and always there with help and support when we need it. They have supported me throughout the whole process. Not only that, but it really helps that they understand our business."

SGS auditor William Thom recalls: "READ Cased Hole had everything in place from years of OHSAS certification, supported by a true top-down health and safety culture. This made ISO 45001 certification straightforward for all concerned."

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HOW THE CERTIFICATION HAS BENEFITTED THE BUSINESS

ISO 45001 has, in effect, rubber-stamped READ Cased Hole's commitment to health and safety in a sector where it is so vital. Many customers insist on the standard being in place, but it also obviates the requirement for individual audits of READ's management systems, although Ian Kerr says that this still happens.

He also says that it reflects the whole health and safety culture that pervades in the business.

Asked to impart advice to other organizations considering certification to ISO 45001, Ian says: "Make sure you get genuine buy-in from the senior management team and indeed, all staff. This will definitely help the whole process go according to plan. Our whole senior management team from our CEO down is totally committed, with health and safety the number one priority."

Ian adds: "You also need to explain why you are doing it. For our people at the front line, it is confidence that we have robust processes in place."

ABOUT SGS

SGS is the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. SGS is recognised as the global benchmark for quality and integrity. With more than 94,000 employees, SGS operates a network of over 2,600 offices and laboratories around the world.

We provide competitive advantage, drive sustainability and deliver trust. At SGS, we are continually pushing ourselves to deliver innovative services and solutions that help our customers move their businesses forward.

Efficiency and cost-optimization are no longer the sole drivers in business development strategies. Successful businesses recognize the importance of offering their workforce continuous development and training. Motivated and effective teams create industry leaders.

ISO 45001 IMPLEMENTATION

ISO 45001 enables your organization to put in place an occupational health and safety management system. This in turn will help you manage your risks and improve your occupational health and safety performance by developing and implementing effective policies and objectives.

KEY POTENTIAL BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Reduction of workplace incidents
- Reduced absenteeism and staff turnover, leading to increased productivity
- Reduced cost of insurance premiums
- Creation of a health and safety culture, whereby employees are encouraged to take an active role in their own occupational health and safety
- Reinforced leadership commitment to proactively improve occupational health and safety performance
- Ability to meet legal and regulatory requirements
- Enhanced reputation
- Improved staff morale

If your organization is already certified to ISO 9001:2015 or ISO 14001:2015, much of the work necessary for auditing and certification will already be in place.

CONTACT SGS

To speak to an SGS representative about starting your journey to ISO 45001 certification, contact us today.



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WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

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