



## MEMBER BULLETIN

November 28, 2019

### ***Supporting Ontario's Safe Employers: OHSMS Accreditation***

On November 22, 2019, the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development announced its **Occupation Health and Safety Management System (OHSMS) Accreditation Standard and Employer Recognition Program ([Supporting Ontario's Safe Employers](#))**. The purpose of Ontario's Voluntary Program is to acknowledge *all* firms that successfully implement OHSMS', regardless of the particular system they employ. This Accreditation Standard will allow for all OHSMS', which are deemed to be equivalent, to be identified by the CPO based on the merits of the program, rather than the provider of the program.

The Program, Supporting Ontario's Safe Employers, is two-fold and involves:

- a) The **Accreditation** of an OHSMS; and
- b) The **Recognition** of employers who have implemented an accredited OHSMS **AND** met *additional* criteria set out by Ontario's CPO

While many businesses were expecting to receive financial incentives for COR or ISO Certification **this element has been removed from the Program**. In other words, **simply implementing a CPO accredited OHSMS is NOT sufficient for receiving financial incentives.**

While there are still paths to financial rewards, all avenues require meeting additional criteria above and beyond implementing an accredited OHSMS. Presently, **ONLY** businesses that have received CPO Recognition will be eligible to receive the three-year Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) premium rebates. A subsequent bulletin will be provided to identify the different paths to financial incentives.

#### **How to Businesses Achieve Accreditation?**

- a) They may implement one of the existing OHSMS' accredited by the CPO; or,
- b) They may develop their own system and apply to have it accredited by the province.



At this time, the CPO has accredited the [following](#) national and international standards:

- a) **ISO 45001:2018** - Occupational health and safety management systems - Requirements with guidance for use,
- b) **CSA Z45001-19** - Occupational health and safety management systems - Requirements with guidance for use,
- c) **BS OHSAS 18001:2007** - Occupational health and safety management system - Requirements,
- d) **COR™ 2020 updated Standard** to be available to implement in January 2020.

If an employer fully implements one of these accredited standards, they do not need to apply for accreditation. Other standards are currently under review and will be posted once accredited by the CPO. If an employer has an OHSMS in place that is not yet accredited, they can apply for accreditation beginning in January 2020.

If you have any questions about the Supporting Ontario's Safe Employers Program, OHSMS Accreditation or the Employer Recognition Program, please contact Patrick McManus (905-629-0587 ext. 222 or [patrick.mcmanus@oswca.org](mailto:patrick.mcmanus@oswca.org)).