

Facilities Management from A to Z



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Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH)

IOSH is a Chartered body for health and safety professionals and is an independent, not-for-profit organisation. The Institute was originally founded with around 500 members in February 1945 from a division of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) as the Institution of Industrial Safety Officers. It became a registered charity in 1962. IOSH were the first European safety body to be awarded NGO status by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

As well as setting professional standards, the Institution supports and develops members and has publications providing advice and guidance on health and safety issues. The Institution achieved Chartered status in 2003 and has had the right to award individual Chartered status to members since 2005.

In 2011 along with other Health and Safety bodies in the UK, IOSH developed the Occupational Safety & Health Consultants Register (OSHCR) to raise awareness and promote the use of certified health and safety consultants in the workplace.

IOSH now claims to be the largest health and safety membership organisation in the world with more than 40,000 members in 99 countries. Categories of membership depend on a combination of academic qualifications, experience and achievement and include Chartered Fellow (CFIOH), Chartered Member (CMIOSH), Graduate Member (Grad IOSH) and Technician Member (Tech IOSH)

The Council is the representative body of the Institution and is made up of elected members that provide advice and debate on strategic, professional and policy issues and represent the views of members to the Board of Trustees. The leadership team includes the President and six Vice Presidents who are elected into position.

The Board of Trustees is appointed by the Council and is responsible for overseeing management of IOSH affairs. The Board has legal accountability for all activities and results and consists of eight members, three independents (non IOSH members) and the Chief Executive.

IOSH work with a range of national and international organisations to raise awareness and standards, developing training for schools and businesses, and running relevant campaigns. As well as lobbying governments on policy and law, IOSH accredit qualifications for their members, give guidance, develop resources and run courses and events to help organisations in their work.

IOSH operates a Code of Conduct for all member categories which establishes rules of ethical practice covering all aspects of their health and safety duties. IOSH health and safety training courses are provided for people of all levels in every sector and any organisation. Every year, around 100,000 employees gain an IOSH health and safety training qualification.

The IOSH website can be found at www.iosh.co.uk