INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
Ensuring
Industrial Safety
The role of government, regulations, standards and new technologies
Vienna, Austria
30 31 May **2019**

Kate Field
OHS

KEY MESSAGE

A global snap shot on OHS standards. The opportunities and challenges that OHS standards bring.

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Standards – a global snap shot

Kate Field, Global Champion, BSI

30 31 May 2019

Vienna International Centre
Conference Room 1

Vienna, Austria

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

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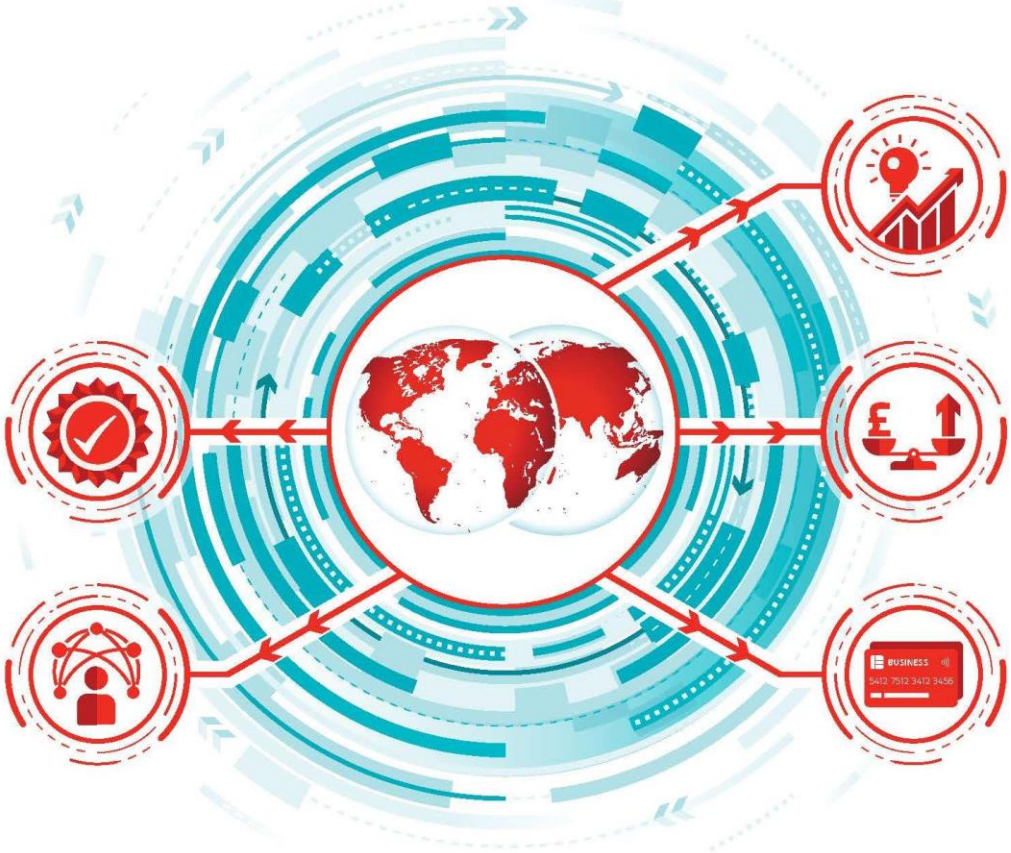
Why are Standards important?



Quality

Standards provide a signal of quality to consumers and trade partners. They drive **quality based competition**, and **improve transparency**, allowing buyers and sellers to make **optimal purchasing decisions.**

Compatibility

International standards create a **common language** for trading partners, enabling **compatibility** of products and services, lowering trade barriers and production costs, and supporting firms to **trade across global supply chains.**

Innovation

Standards have a **catalytic effect** on innovation, **reducing time to market**, promoting the global diffusion of **innovative products** and services.

Economies of scale

Standards **lower barriers** to trade, allowing companies to access a **global customer** base, offering opportunities for economies of scale and **reducing production costs.**

Transaction costs

Compatibility standards **promote opportunities** for firms to **outsource** and off-shore certain tasks, **promoting efficiency** and business optimization.

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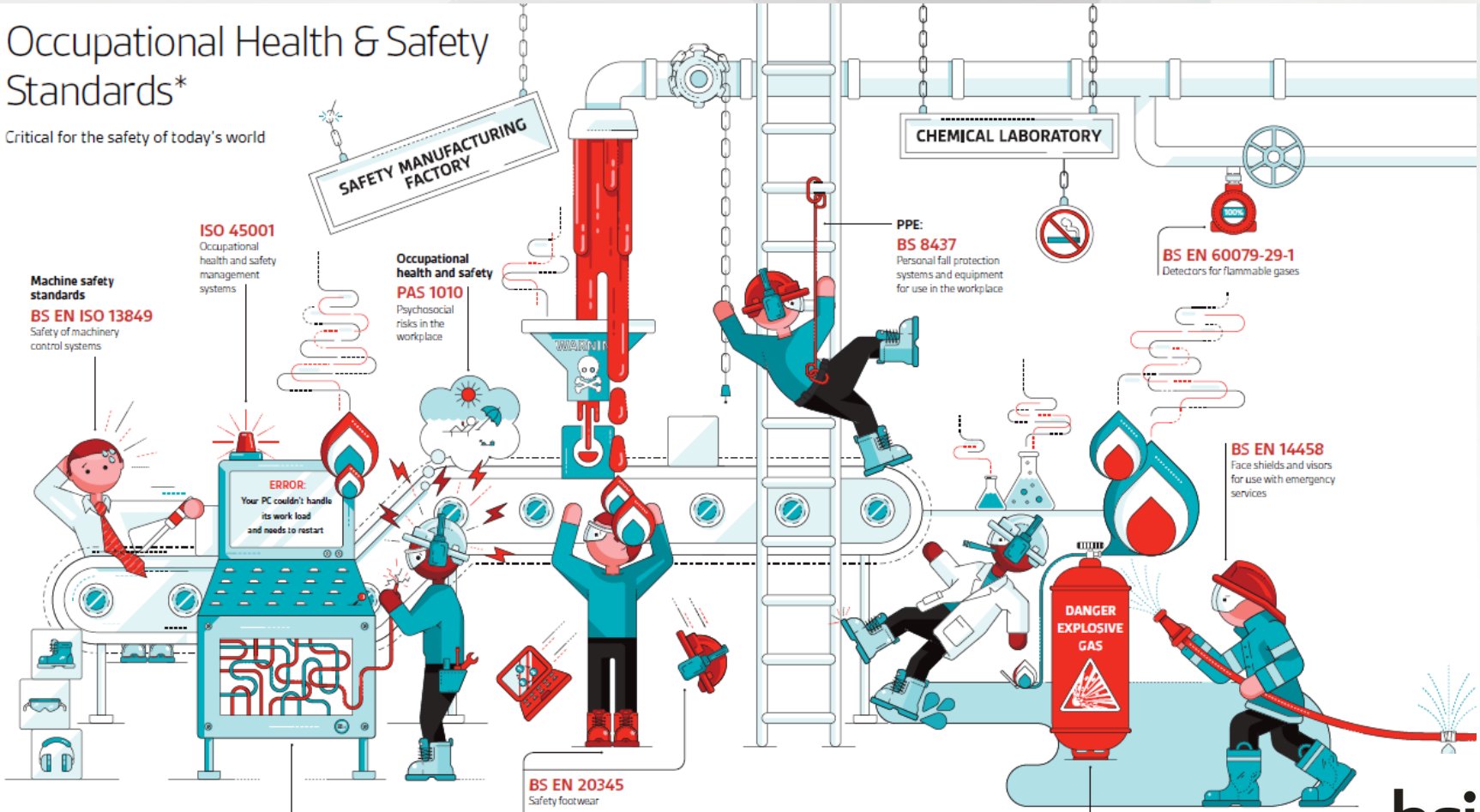
Health and Safety Standards

Occupational Health & Safety Standards*

Critical for the safety of today's world



*The selection of standards is based upon the popularity among current BSOL subscriptions

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Global views on OHS Standards

UK: 'Technical' Standards used as reference in enforcement, yet ISO 45001 received cautious response

Botswana: Does not have OHS legislation so ISO 45001 hugely beneficial

USA: ANAB no longer going to accrediate Z10. Department of Labor study on employer adoption of voluntary OHS Standards

Netherlands: References OHS management systems as way of demonstrating compliance

Spain: Social insurance discounts for having OHS management system

China: CNCA requires local specification in addition to Standard

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Opportunities

- Saving lives and making workplaces better (decent work)
- ISO 45001 first global standard on OHS
- HLS
- Continual improvement
- Sharing good practice and learning
- Addressing emerging concerns
- Improving compliance with regulation
- Flow down supply chain

Challenges

- Accessibility
- Complexity
- Duplication
- Resource to implement
- Inconsistent view of Standards
- Sector specific initiatives

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