



the **ENERGY** lab

POLICY FACTS  
NETL ES&H/ISM

## Frequently Asked Questions About OHSAS 18001

### What is OHSAS 18001?

OHSAS 18001 is a voluntary standard focused on improving occupational safety and health performance using a management system approach, similar to DOE's Integrated Safety Management (ISM). Its structure is very similar to the ISO 14001 standard for Environmental Management Systems (EMS).

### What is OHSAS 18001 Conformance?

Unlike ISO 14001, which allows for external certification, OHSAS 18001 does not have a certification process. However, organizations may obtain a conformance certificate through an independent third-party verification audit, which evaluates conformance to the OHSAS 18001 standard. NETL obtained registration to the OHSAS 18001: 1999 specification in April 2007.

### What Does OHSAS 18001 Mean to NETL?

To achieve OHSAS 18001 conformance, NETL expanded its ISMS and EMS to include the occupational safety and health requirements prescribed by OHSAS 18001. Existing safety and health programs, processes, training, and assessments were expanded to include occupational safety and health considerations.

### What Does This Mean to Employees?

Safety and health performance is a recognized responsibility of each employee. Specifically, NETL employees:

- Understand NETL's Environmental, Safety and Health Policy (see reverse side) and how it relates to their job. The acronym PRISM reinforces the main points in the Policy.
- Understand the safety and health aspects of their job – what they do that creates hazards and risks, as well as the potential impacts or results of those interactions.

### CONTACT

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- Ensure that their work has undergone a hazard analysis through the safety analysis and review system or other work control and then follow procedures and controls put in place to control hazards and risks.
- Know the ES&H Management System Representative – David Hyman.
- Know what to do in the event of an emergency – Dial ext. 11 to notify Security (in Pittsburgh and Morgantown) and dial 911 directly, then call Security ext. 5957 (in Albany).
- Understand the benefits of improved personal performance and the potential consequences from departure of policies/procedures.
- Understand the requirements and responsibilities within NETL’s directives, in particular, the following: 440.1 series, NETL Safety and Health Program, and 450.4 series, NETL Integrated Safety Management.

## NETL’s Environmental, Safety and Health Policy

NETL will achieve environmental, safety, and health quality by proactively, systematically, and fully integrating ES&H considerations into the planning and execution of all work, so that the mission is successfully accomplished for the safety and health of the public without detriment to NETL or the environment.

NETL is committed to reducing environmental, safety, and health impacts by:

- Complying with all applicable ES&H laws, regulations, and standards through rigorous regulatory compliance programs.
- Implementing pollution prevention programs to eliminate or reduce waste and emissions and accident/incident reduction programs to eliminate or reduce accidents and incidents.
- Conserving energy and materials through resource management and recycling/reuse.
- Using safety analysis and review systems to identify, control, and reduce safety and health risks and environmental impacts through engineering and administrative controls.

NETL will work continually to improve environmental, safety, and health systems with the goal of improved ES&H performance. Performance will be measured against stated objectives and targets.

NETL will communicate information to employees and seek their involvement in reducing our environmental, safety, and health impacts and communicate our policies to stakeholders and the public.



**I-S-M** represents the integration between the DOE Integrated Safety Management System and NETL’s environmental and safety management systems.

For more information about NETL’s ISO 14001 efforts visit our website at  
**[www.netl.doe.gov](http://www.netl.doe.gov)**

