

The Automotive Industry Action Group Health, Safety, and Environmental Steering Committee believes firmly believes that the use of formal management systems are necessary for the effective management of health safety and environmental programs, and thus fully endorse ANSI Z10 and International Organization of Standardization (ISO) programs such as ISO's 14001 environmental management standard. * We believe that management of safety and health as part of an existing management system is necessary to achieve overall HSE excellence.

We believe that the management of health & safety under the BSI OHSAS 18001 program is good practice, but less efficient in terms of both cost and time, as compared to managing health & safety as part of an existing management system. This is fundamental to making safety and health integrated within existing management systems and part of the day-to-day business activities.

In conclusion, AIAG:

- believes that the International Labor Organization (ILO); OHSMS Guidelines of 2001 provide a sound basis for any nation or organization to develop an effective safety and health management system
- is concerned when entities such as BSI issue 'standards' utilizing a numbering sequence that at the very least confuses many into believing the standard was issued by ISO, and
- will work to integrate health & safety programs within a comprehensive and effective management system, but will not specifically mandate OHSAS 18001 certification.

* Some member companies certify their environmental programs to ISO 14001 and other management systems, such as ISO-9001, while concurrently receiving a letter of conformance from the registrar advising that health & safety is managed in conformance with ISO 14001/9001 at no additional cost. In addition to reducing costs within the supply chain, this approach is arguably more effective in that a single management system is utilized to manage all HSE activities, so only a single system need be maintained and continually improved over time.