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Quality Practitioners™ - Where Excellence is Non-negotiable

Daily Feed - 4 October 2026

1. Today's Lead Signal - ISO 45001 revision moves to ballot

The next edition of ISO 45001, expected around 2027, is now at the Draft International Standard ballot stage

The draft was released for national ballot in June 2026. Proposed themes include psychosocial health and stress, climate-related risks to workers, hybrid and digital work, supply chain accountability and stronger leadership and worker engagement. Published dates differ between sources on when the ballot closes, and the final text and transition period are not yet confirmed. ISO 45001:2018 remains the certifiable standard today.

ISO 45001 - Occupational health and safety management

Why it matters: Organisations can use this window to see where today's system is already strong and where the likely changes will test it.

2. Case Studies - Recent ISO 45001 Certifications

- **RS Integrated Supply (global, March 2026):** a supply and inventory provider announced ISO 45001 certification across its operations in North America, the United Kingdom, Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific, citing consistent risk identification and injury prevention processes. *Why it matters:* one consistent system across regions shows that safety management can be standardised without ignoring local hazards.
- **Europalco (Portugal, April 2026):** a large event and show solutions provider certified its system, covering rigging, stage assembly, working at height, heavy lifting and electrical hazards, with internal consultation channels for technical teams and integration with its quality and event sustainability systems. *Why it matters:* it shows hazard identification and worker consultation (clauses 5.4 and 6.1.2) working in a high-risk, project-based business.

3. Major Developments

- **Draft International Standard ballot:** the ISO technical committee reports that the ballot opened in June 2026. Other sources give different closing dates, so the exact close should be confirmed on the ISO committee page.
- **Expected timeline:** certification body guidance expects publication of the new edition around mid-2027, followed by a transition period of about three years, which is not yet confirmed by ISO.
- **Proposed content:** mental health and wellbeing, climate-related risks, modern work models, supply chain and contractor oversight, and leadership accountability, with continued alignment to the common management system structure.

4. Regional and Sector Notes

- **United Kingdom and international:** certification bodies are publishing transition guidance and expect a transition period similar to ISO 9001 and ISO 14001.
- **Europe - events and live production:** project-based, high-risk sectors are certifying to show control of temporary works, working at height and lifting.
- **Supply and logistics sector:** global distributors are using one certified system to give customers consistent safety assurance across regions.

5. Gap Analysis - Areas to Focus

Area	ISO 45001:2018 today	Focus
Worker consultation and participation (5.4)	Processes for consultation and participation of workers at all applicable levels	Evidence that non-managerial workers are involved in hazard identification and incident investigation, not just informed
Hazard identification and risk assessment (6.1.2)	Ongoing, proactive processes covering routine and non-routine activities, people and changes	Include psychosocial hazards and hybrid or remote work in the assessment
Eliminating hazards (8.1.2)	Hierarchy of controls from elimination to protective equipment	Show why higher controls were chosen or rejected before relying on protective equipment
Procurement and contractors (8.1.4)	Coordinate procurement, contractors and outsourcing with OH&S requirements	Prepare for stronger supply chain accountability expected in the revision
Incident, nonconformity and corrective action (10.2)	Determine root causes and take action, with worker involvement	Look past individual error to system causes and verify effectiveness

Clause references are to ISO 45001:2018. Expected changes in the revision must be rechecked against the published text.

6. Notes for Quality Managers and Organisational Heads

- **Quality and safety managers:** start a clause cross-reference now, review how workers are consulted, and ask your certification body for its transition plan.
- **Organisational heads:** plan for training and audit time, expect closer questions on leadership accountability and worker wellbeing, and review contractor safety arrangements.

7. Documentation Framework - Key Considerations

- Keep a controlled record of consultation and participation, with outcomes that show worker input changed decisions.
- Review the hazard register and risk assessment method for psychosocial and hybrid work hazards.
- Document contractor and procurement safety requirements, and how they are verified.
- Maintain a change log between ISO 45001:2018 and the revised text as audit evidence.

8. Call to Action

Quality Practitioners Consultancy: clause-level gap assessment against ISO 45001, a revision readiness plan, and documentation framework support.

Mind Enablers Academy: formal training on ISO 45001 and the expected changes for internal auditors, safety managers and leaders.

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