

SAFE TIME

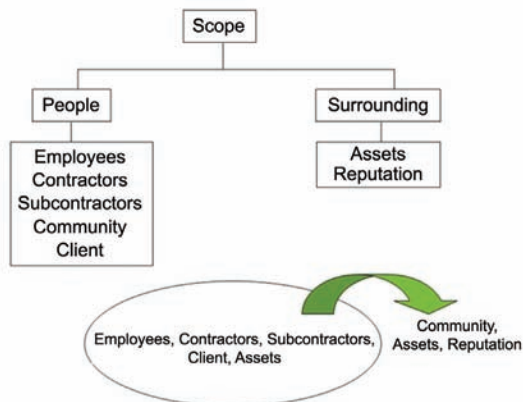
Safety Management System (SMS)



by Ir. Shum Keng Yan

THE acronym SMS does not represent what you would normally think it would be. SMS, in this case, stands for Safety Management System, or perhaps you are more familiar with the term OHSMS (Occupational Health and Safety Management System). Since we now have a general statement of the safety policy being displayed at the reception, we need to make sure that we live up to our commitments.

Let us start with the scope. The business needs to understand the scope of the operations. We need to understand what we need to cover, and this is where the scope comes in. The scope can be summarised below:



The organisation then needs to establish the SMS framework to fulfill the commitments based on the identified scope. The Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994 mentioned the organisation and its arrangements. Basically, the organisation and its arrangements is the framework for the SMS and is depicted in the diagram below. I have used the term Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) for the sake of convenience.

I have included the tools to support the organisation under the “Organisation” bucket. These tools include proper Roles and Responsibilities, Job Description incorporating EHS, proper EHS Performance Evaluation, etc.

In the coming issues, we will discuss key items in “Organisation” and “Arrangement”. We have already covered the Person-in-Charge, EHS Policy and the basics of Risk Management in past articles. Meanwhile, if you would like to share your thoughts on this, please send an email (not SMS) to pub@iem.org.my. ■

Good Safety comes from Good Management. Good Management comes from Good Leadership. Thus, Good Safety is an indication of Good Leadership! Good leaders produce all-rounded results in profitability, quality and safety! Wishing you a Happy Deepavali!

