



Independent Certification of Health and Safety
Management Systems for the Construction Industry

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GOOD NEWS FOR SAFE-T-CERT CERTIFIED COMPANIES !

Buildsafe (<http://www.dfpni.gov.uk/buildsafe-ni>) is an initiative in Northern Ireland to improve the safety performance of the construction sector. All public projects are procured in accordance with its requirements.

Buildsafe 2011 has introduced two requirements relating to third party accredited safety management systems – as follows;

Requirement No. 1: From September 2011, all contractors seeking to tender for public sector works must have a health and safety management system certified by a third party.

Requirement No. 2: By December 2011 the main contractor must only appoint a first tier subcontractor (with 10 or more workers / employees) which has a health and safety management system certified by a third party.

For the Health and Safety Management System to be considered eligible, the third party certification must satisfy (amongst others) the following criteria;

- Certification must be obtained / renewed every 3 years
- An annual verification audit must be undertaken in intervening years.
- It must be construction focussed and incorporate site inspections.

The good news for companies already certified to Safe-T-Cert is that they meet this requirement and therefore this clears the way to procure work in this jurisdiction.

Safe-T-Cert not only satisfies all the criteria listed above but also meet the health and safety procurement criteria for public procurement in the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain.

For more information, contact;

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