



Environmental Health & Safety Audit Protocol Portugal 2022

release notes

STP ComplianceEHS (STP) announces the release of its newly developed environmental, health and safety (EHS) audit protocol for Portugal. This audit protocol covers relevant national EHS requirements. The regulatory date for the current release is May 2022.

This EHS audit protocol is organized around twenty topics, with a separate section devoted to each, as follows:

- General Environmental
- Air Emissions
- Water and Wastewater Management
- Solid and Hazardous Waste
- Environmental Product Stewardship
- Above and Below Ground Tank Management
- Community Noise
- PCBs
- Asbestos
- Occupational Health
- Equipment, Machine and Electrical Safety
- Material Handling and General In-Plant Safety
- Fire Safety
- Transport of Dangerous Goods
- Industrial Hygiene
- Chemical Management
- Construction Work Site Safety
- Incident Prevention and Response
- Marine Protection and Operations
- Flora and Fauna

highlights of the regulatory framework

The Portuguese government functions as a single multi-party semi-presidential representative democratic republic, with the Prime Minister as head of government. The President is head of state, and despite holding no executive powers they still retain a number of important political powers and responsibilities, including the promulgation of all laws enacted by Parliament or the Government. The government consists of three branches: Executive, Legislative and Judicial. Each branch is independent and designed to keep checks and balances on the other branches. Executive power is exercised by the government under the Prime Minister. Legislative power is exercised by the Assembly of the Republic, which is the parliament of Portugal, although the legislative capacity of the government is also limited in certain matters (in other matters, the Parliament has exclusive legislative power). The Assembly of the Republic is a unicameral body composed of 230 representatives, or members of Parliament.

release notes

please review

The responsible authorities for Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) are both the Ministry of Solidarity, Employment and Social Security and the Authority of Working Conditions (ACT). ACT's main mission is to promote the improvement of working conditions through policies on the prevention of occupational hazards and by controlling compliance with labor standards and laws concerning health and safety at work in all activity sectors, as well as in central and local administration services, including public institutes. ACT is under the direct administration of the Ministry but endowed with administrative autonomy in all mainland territory.

The laws and regulations that dictate OSH are administered through both authorities. The *Occupational Safety and Health Law (L 102/2009, amended and consolidated by L 3/2014)* is the leading OSH law in Portugal. This law transposes into the Portuguese law the EU Framework *Directive 89/391/EEC*, which aims to introduce measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work, amended by *Regulation (EC)1882/2003*, from the EU Parliament and the Council, by *Directive 2007/30/EC*, from the EU Parliament and the Council, and by *Regulation (EC)1137/2008*, from the EU Parliament and the Council.

The National Council for Health and Safety at Work aims to promote consultation and the sharing of responsibilities between the State and the social partners in defining, monitoring implementation, and evaluation of policies for the prevention of occupational hazards and combat workplace accidents. It is a tripartite body in which the public administration and social partners are represented. The Council contributes to national security policy, worker health and working environment development and implementation, as well as national safety and health planning and worker health and working environment reporting. Enhancing safety and health in the workplace is the responsibility of the Portuguese Labor Inspectorate, now part of the ACT, and overseen by the Ministry of Solidarity, Employment and Social Security.



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