



ISO 37001

Briefing notes

Anti-bribery management systems

What is ISO 37001?

ISO 37001, *Anti-bribery management systems*, specifies requirements and provides guidance for establishing, implementing, maintaining and improving an anti-bribery management system. The system can be independent of, or integrated into, an overall management system.

It addresses the following bribery risks in relation to the organization's activities:

- Bribery in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors
- Bribery by the organization or by its personnel or business associates acting on its behalf or for its benefit
- Bribery of the organization or of its personnel or business associates acting on its behalf or for its benefit
- Direct and indirect bribery (e.g. a bribe paid or received through or by a third party)

The term “bribery” is used to refer to the offering, promising, giving, accepting or soliciting of an advantage (which could be financial or non-financial), directly or indirectly, in violation of applicable law, as an inducement or reward for a person acting, or refraining from acting, in relation to the performance of that person's duties.

However, this general use of the term “bribery” will be further informed by — and an anti-bribery management system will need to be designed to help an organization comply with — the anti-bribery laws applicable to the organization.

Bribery can take place in or through any location, it can be of any value and it can involve financial or non-financial advantages or benefits.

Who can benefit from ISO 37001?

The requirements of ISO 37001 are generic and are intended to be applicable to *all* organizations (or parts of an organization), regardless of type, size and nature of activity, and whether in the public, private or not-for-profit sectors.

It does not specifically address fraud, cartels, anti-trust/competition offences, money-laundering or other activities related to corrupt practices (although an organization may choose to extend the scope of the management system to include such activities).

How does ISO 37001 relate to other standards?

ISO 37001 is based on the High Level Structure (HLS) for Management System Standards (MSS). The identical text, common terms and core definitions of the HLS are set out in ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Annex SL.

Who is developing ISO 37001?

Leadership

- **Project Leader:** Neill Stansbury
- **ISO/PC 278 Secretary:** Mike Henigan (BSI) (mike.henigan@bsigroup.com)

Timeline to publication

- **November 2015:** Draft International Standard (DIS) issued for full consultation
- **April 2016:** resolution of DIS comments by ISO/PC 278
- **Late 2016:** proposed publication

More information?

Find more information on:

- Committee developing the standards and its work, **ISO/PC 278**
- High Level Structure, view Annex SL of the **ISO/IEC Directives**