



Legislation Outlook

May 2023

This monthly legislation briefing is a [supplement](#) to our Activ Comply service to help you to plan ahead for the maintenance of your ISO 14001, ISO 45001, ISO 50001 and ISO 27001 systems. In addition to giving you advance warning about important legislation that will affect your compliance with the standards, we'll provide news, newly-published guidance and government consultations that you might find useful, as well as any other significant legislation beyond the scope of the standards listed that will potentially impact your organisation. Unlike other services, we only report items of value: we don't waste your time on items such as an increase in administrative fees or changes that only affect enforcement agencies.

When legislative changes are announced with short notice (<1 Month) they are not reported here. All changes are automatically delivered directly into your [Activ Comply](#) system as they come into effect so you can be confident that you are always 100% up to date.

There was little of note published in the last month in relation to the standards covered by Activ Comply.

Introducing Andy, Activ's Group Development Director



Andy Beverley, Activ's Group Software Development Director is an entrepreneurial software developer with a strong technical background. This, coupled with a strong entrepreneurial flair has led him to become involved with multiple tech start-ups, of which one was InfoSaaS that later became Activ.

As the Group Software Development Director what developments does Andy feel have been most influential for the Activ software?

Bringing development capability and expertise into Activ has had a significant influence on the software, specifically in terms of optimising its functionality and web application. Also, the transformation of Activ into a more widely used software which manages ISO compliance to include many more ISO standards has been key. The continuous improvement of the software capability and regular system updates has also played a big part.

In Andy's opinion, what does he perceive the Activ USPs to be?

Coupled with software development expertise, Activ is backed by the wider Amtivo Group which offers access to additional resources, expertise in other areas, including ISO certification.

How does Andy perceive the evolution of Activ so far?

The Activ software is continually broadening its functionality, covering a wide range of ISO standards as well as establishing its tech standing in the market.

How does Andy see Activ evolving in the future?

Andy sees the Activ software continuing to strengthen its position within the market as a slick, easy to use, reliable software whilst retaining its core offering. Andy would like to see Activ become the 'go to' reliable ISO compliance software that everyone turns to for the majority of their ISO compliance management needs. Andy explains; "I look forward to seeing Activ cement its position as the most efficient and reliable 'go-to' ISO compliance management software."

Upcoming Standard-Related Legislation

There is no long lead time standard-related legislation to report this month.



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News

Registration of High-Rise Residential Buildings

The Health and Safety Executive, in its role as the Building Safety Regulator, has opened the registration process for high-risk buildings in England. All buildings that contain two or more residential units and are either at least 18 metres tall or have at least 7 storeys are legally required to be registered with the Building Safety Regulator by 1 October 2023. The fee to register each building is £251 and the HSE has issued guidance on how to apply for registration.

Toolkit for Vexatious Freedom of Information (FOI) Requests

The Information Commissioner's Office has added a new topic to its FOI toolkit to enable public authorities to self-assess how they deal with vexatious requests. Public authorities are not obliged to comply with FOI requests that are vexatious (i.e., likely to cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption, irritation, or distress). The self-assessment tool will give public authorities greater confidence in determining whether a FOI request is vexatious.



ISO 14001 Key Requirements

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Consultations

Increasing Fines for Environmental Offences

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs has published a consultation setting out its plans to strengthen the enforcement powers of the Environment Agency by:


- increasing the overall cap for variable monetary penalties in the Environmental Civil Sanctions (England) Order 2010 from its current amount of £250,000 to £25 million, to £250 million or to have no cap at all with unlimited penalties; and
- introducing powers to issue variable monetary penalties for breaches of environmental permits into the Environmental Permitting Regulations.

The consultation closes on 15 May 2023.



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