

AUTOMATED HSE: ESSENTIAL FOR PROACTIVE SAFETY MANAGEMENT

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Report Highlights

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Ensuring full compliance with HSE regulations is a top business pressure for 67% of respondents.

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Best-in-Class firms are 78% more likely to establish standardized policies to prevent business interruption due to an adverse event.

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Best-in-Class firms are 56% more likely than All Others to integrate risk management in all key organizational processes.

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Best-in-Class organizations are 81% more likely to implement real-time visibility into quality and compliance data compared to All Others.

The ability to meet Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) reporting requirements is an enormous task, especially for small and medium businesses. Using an automated safety management solution is essential to proactively meeting this challenge. The strategies of the Best-in-Class can be followed to help organizations via software for automated incident management, inspection management, and behavior-based safety.

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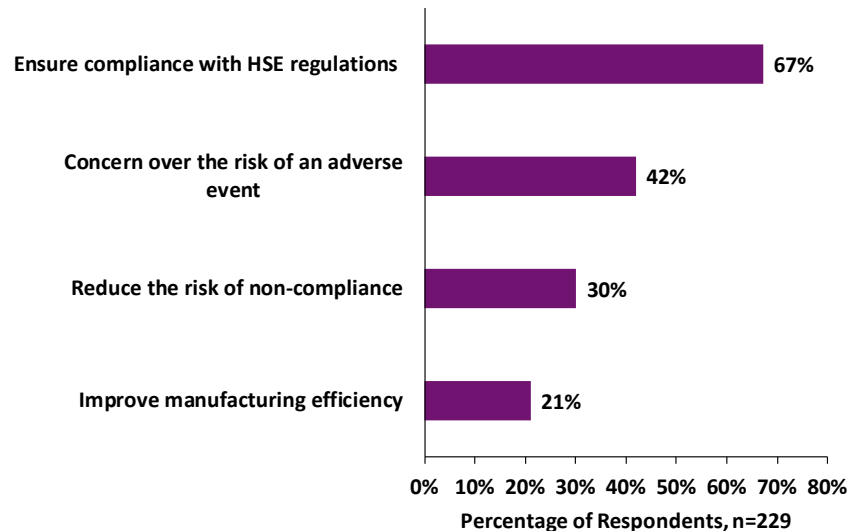
Using an automated safety management solution is essential to proactively meeting Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) reporting requirements.

For small and medium businesses (SMBs) to proactively meet Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) reporting requirements, an automated safety management solution is essential. These solutions should include standard incident management, standard inspection methodologies, and behavior-based safety, as well as support for checklists and automated alerts.

Top Business Pressures in HSE (Health, Safety, and Environment)

Compliance with a plethora of regulations and the need to manage risk are still the primary drivers when it comes to HSE (Figure 1).

Figure 1: HSE Business Pressures



Source: Aberdeen Group, June 2017

Aberdeen research reveals the top two business pressures today are ensuring compliance with HSE regulations (67%) and concern over the risk of an adverse event (42%). As always, reducing non-compliance risk is a primary concern.

While all companies are subject to the same business pressures, HSE pressures are accentuated for SMBs. National Institute for

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Safety and Health (NIOSH) data shows that small businesses are more likely to experience workplace injuries and illnesses than their larger counterparts. When it comes to safety and health, smaller establishments experience a disproportionate number of fatalities when compared with larger firms — and they have higher rates of serious injuries. They typically have smaller safety budgets and, in many cases, no trained safety staff.

The common thread of these business pressures for large and small businesses alike is clear: **“Reducing risk is paramount.”** In this regard, proactive safety software for automated incident management, inspection management, and behavior-based safety (BBS) is the great equalizer. Large or small, firms implementing this software save time, allowing them to analyze risk and develop a 360° view of safety from an operational perspective. Factories, processing plants, refineries, oil rigs, offshore and onshore structures, and construction sites are among the many assets that benefit from an automated safety management system to handle incident reporting, inspection management, and behavior-based safety.

Automated HSE Increases Efficiency

The Best-in-Class increase efficiency through software that automates and standardizes HSE:

- **Incident Management.** By using automated, cloud-based incident management software, users become more proactive and achieve real-time reporting, real-time monitoring, and flexible reporting based on case type (incident, near miss, unsafe condition, etc.)

A systematic, automated approach to incident management contributes to safe and stable work conditions by tracking

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and trending consequences, loss potential, causes, as well as both corrective and preventive actions.

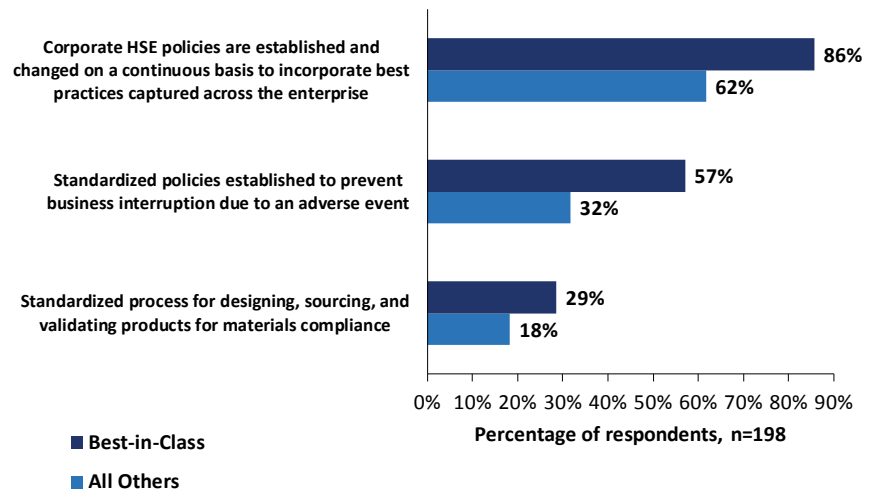
- **Inspection Management.** By managing the full inspection process (planning, execution, follow-up, and analysis) in software, users obtain a powerful tool for top-down planning and approval as well as bottom-up verification and control.

By using a standard inspection methodology, documentation is always available, enabling analysis and benchmarking of inspections for greater efficiency.

- **Checklists.** A streamlined system of checklists automatically generates actions and alerts to provide a standardized, transparent, and effective inspection process. For example, checklists may be generated for work site safety prior to a job. This provides HSE personnel the opportunity to document any risk associated with the job and to put corrections and actions into place prior to starting the job. In addition, special checklists for behavior-based safety provide personnel with the tools to stay safe and create a culture of safety consciousness.

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Figure 2: Best-in-Class Organizations Favor Standardized HSE Policies and Processes



Source: Aberdeen Group, June 2017

The Best-in-Class are:

- 78% more likely to establish standardized policies to prevent business interruption due to an adverse event.
- 61% more likely to standardize the process for designing, sourcing, and validating product for materials compliance.
- 39% more likely to establish and change corporate HSE policies on a continuous basis to incorporate best practices captured across the enterprise.

Automated HSE For A Best Practice Approach

Best-in-Class firms reap the rewards from a “best-practice” approach to incident management, inspection management, and behavior-based safety.

Automated incident management ensures HSE compliance. With this technology in place, Best-in-Class firms have a full, real-time view of the business, allowing them to quickly make decisions, improve operational efficiency, and reduce operational risk. Risk mitigation via automated incident management is enabled by the consistency of data capture, better reporting accuracy to meet HSE goals, and the ability to quickly spot trends by analyzing and rolling up data across complex, multilayered organizations.

Those that have a well-proven process for inspection execution and follow-up may simply set up automated inspection management software to match existing practices to improve efficiency, transparency, and control of responsibilities. However, organizations looking to reengineer their practices may find that the “best-practice approach” built in to inspection software is a better move.

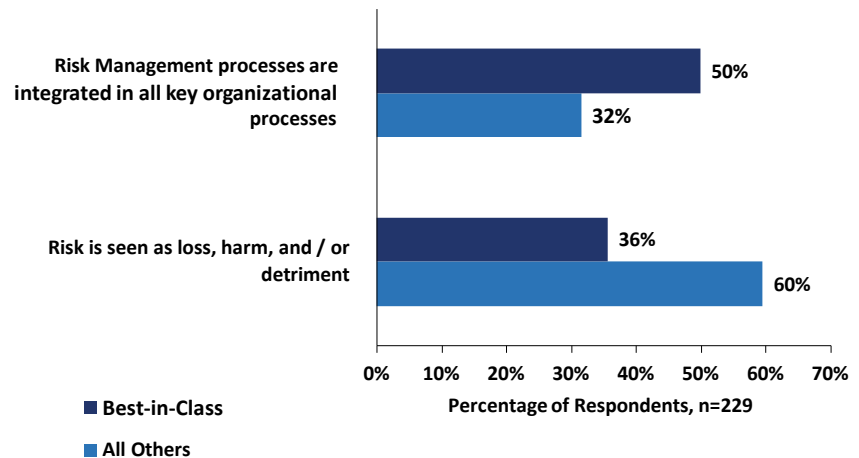
There is much truth in the old adage “Don’t pave over cow paths,” and automated inspection management software is designed to comply with international requirements and best practices “out of the box.” This software also offers tailoring options to implement customer-specific preferences for data capture, terminology, work processes, organization, inspection workflow, and screen layout.

Making the change to better risk management can seem difficult at first, until you assess the potential rewards. Sixty percent of All Others see risk as loss, harm, or detriment. However, Best-in-Class firms have figured out that embracing change is a much better path to risk management. By implementing technologies such as automated inspection management and BBS, Best-in-Class firms

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have tamed risk to the point that only 36% now view risk as a loss, harm, or detriment. In addition, Best-in-Class firms are 56% more likely than All Others to integrate risk management processes in all key organizational processes. The bottom line is that you will save time and money by implementing inspection management and behavior-based safety software.

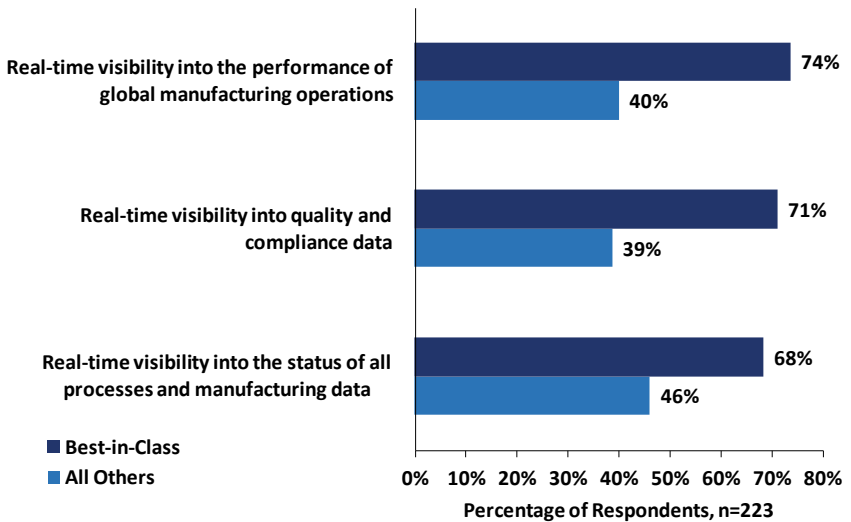
Figure 3: Best-in-Class Firms Reap the Rewards of Better Risk Management



Source: Aberdeen Group, June 2017

Automated HSE: A 360° View of Safety

Automated HSE minimizes risk by providing a complete view of safety. Automated incident inspection management and behavior-based safety enable a 360° view of safety from an operational perspective. On top of documenting and managing compliance risk more effectively, users also achieve effective communication of notifications and findings. And because all information can be viewed across sites, business units, and processes, it is also easy to recognize and reward best-practice performers.

Figure 4: Best-in-Class Favor 360 Degree Visibility

Source: Aberdeen Group, June 2017

Significantly, Best-in-Class organizations are 81% more likely to implement real-time visibility into quality and compliance data than All Others.

Takeaways: The Road to HSE Success is Paved with Automation

For small and medium businesses, the ability to proactively meet Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) incident reporting requirements is an enormous task. Using an automated safety management software solution to implement a standard incident reporting and inspection methodology, checklists, and automated alerts are essential to meeting this challenge.

Best-in-Class firms reap the rewards from a “best-practice” approach to inspections and behavior-based safety. Making the change to better risk management seems difficult at first. However, assessing the compliance risks and the potential rewards confirm that embracing change is a much better path to risk management. Best-in-Class firms have tamed risk by implementing automated incident and inspection management — achieving:

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- Increased efficiency
- A “Best Practice” approach, and
- Minimized risks via a 360° view of safety.

HSE success is achievable. Following the actions of Best-in-Class organizations ensures that firms fully minimize HSE risks. The bottom line is that you will reduce risk as well as save time and money by implementing automated incident management, inspection management, and behavior-based safety software.

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For more information on this or other research topics, please visit www.aberdeen.com.

Related Research

[*The Science of Compliance: Automated Planning for Audits*](#); June 2016

[*The Value of Automated Planning for Compliance Audits*](#); March 2016

[*Mitigating Risk Through Proactive Incident Management in the Cloud*](#); January 2017

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