

**EVOTIX**



# THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO EHS

6 Key Reasons To Invest In EHS



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## Defining EHS

### Let's acquaint ourselves with the acronyms

So, what does EHS stand for? EHS (Environment, Health and Safety) is an umbrella term used for all the rules, laws, programs and actions put in place to support the health and safety of employees, customers and the environment in which an organisation operates. Depending on where you are located this can also be referred to as HSE (Health, Safety and Environment) or EHSQ (Environmental, Health, Safety and Quality).

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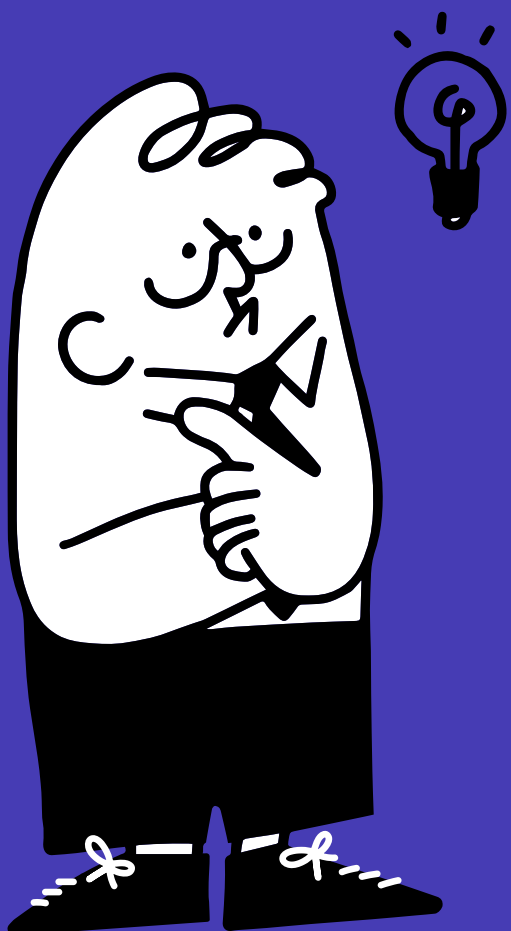
## What is EHS?

EHS is a term that encompasses many processes, guidelines and initiatives that build towards maintaining safe operations.

When 'environment' is discussed, it means the natural world in which people, animals or plants live or operate. As in, "am I releasing toxic chemicals into the environment or polluting a stream?"

'Health' refers to anything that could negatively impact the physical or mental condition of an employee.

'Safety' relates to the organised measures a company takes to identify workplace hazards, thereby protecting employees and the workplace.



# Why is EHS important?

Every person has the right to work in a safe and fulfilling environment. EHS helps protect the lives of your employees. Behind every safety related statistic is a name and family and they deserve to have their family come home safely. Safety is a legal obligation and poor EHS management will lead to:

- Increase in costs (fines, claims, etc.)
- Disruption to operational efficiency
- Decrease in employee morale and retention
- Loss of future investment
- Damage to business reputation

**Good EHS management is a core part of the operational ecosystem and doing it well can promote engagement and wider productivity benefits. Which is why it's time to shift the mentality on EHS to safe operations being an organisation's #1 priority.**

Incidents such as the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, which caused 57,500 square miles of petroleum leakage

**KILLED**

**11**

**INJURED**

**17**

The Rana Plaza accident was a building collapse that

**KILLED**

**1,132**

**INJURED**

**2,500**

Both serve as powerful reminders of the importance of truly prioritising EHS. While it is easy to forget that hazards exist in our day-to-day lives, by placing safety at the heart of effective operations, tragedies like these may be avoided.

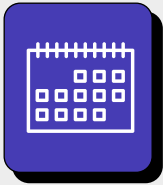
The Western world's outlook on employee health and safety has changed drastically over the last few decades, with legislation being brought in during the 1970s to provide more protection for employees than ever before. Thanks to the

Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (passed to prevent workers from being killed or harmed at work), employees in the United States have the right to a safe and healthy place of work, while the UK's Health and Safety at Work etc Act of 1974 lays out specific health and safety responsibilities for employees and employers alike.

# What are the benefits of EHS?

Having an EHS department provides clear evidence that companies are not only serious about complying with governmental regulations, but also that they truly care about their employee's health, safety, well-being and happiness – promoting a positive work environment.

The benefits of a comprehensive EHS program are numerous. Even if you don't work in a high-risk environment, making safe operations your #1 priority is beneficial for the following reasons:



Reducing the days of missed work for employees. The Health and Safety Executive estimated that in 2019, the average person suffering from a work-related illness in the UK took about 17.6 days off work. Similarly in the US, the National Safety Congress estimates that 99,000,000 days were lost in 2020 as a result of work-related injuries.



Reduction in legal issues brought on by workplace incidents. According to Health and Safety Executive, organisations in the UK tried in a magistrates court can expect to pay between £5,000 to £20,000 in fines. Organisations may also have to pay compensation and legal fees. In 2019 the National Council on Compensation Insurance stated that the average cost on a US worker's comp claim was \$42,008.



Eradicating employee fears surrounding potential accidents. According to Richard Powell, Head of Personal Injury Claims at JMW Solicitors, more than a quarter of employees do not report a workplace injury for fear of financial repercussions from their employer.



Increasing company profit. Incidents incur a range of direct and indirect costs to employers. For example, an incident with a direct cost of \$5,000 will mean that the organisation will need to generate \$227,000 to cover the incident cost, according to Bill Gourdie, Health and Safety director at GAI. In 2020, the National Safety Council calculated that the total cost to employers for work injuries was over \$163 billion which includes \$44.8 billion in wage and productivity losses.



Improved public image. By taking a firm stand on health, safety and the environment, public recognition and loyalty from customers, partners and investors is bolstered.

# Which businesses need to consider EHS?

The pressure on companies to be more transparent about their EHS practices is growing stronger.

## The industries with the highest need for EHS are as follows:

- Manufacturing
- Industrial
- Sports & leisure
- Forestry
- Transportation
- Warehousing
- Education
- Architecture
- Construction
- Food & drink
- Housing
- Engineering
- Pharmaceuticals
- Retail
- Utilities
- Healthcare
- Office-based

## Despite being dotted across a variety of areas, these industries have at least one (if not a few, or even all) of the following risks in common:

- Slips, trips and falls
- Accidents involving collision with other vehicles
- Fire related hazards
- Managing work through extreme heat or cold
- Exposure to harmful and toxic substances
- Contact with heavy machinery and electrical equipment





# What are the benefits of EHS software?

In a nutshell, EHS software helps you manage your environment, health, and safety program to keep your workers happy and safe, all while helping you reach your corporate operational goals.

EHS software provides the means to capture, store and organise information and workflows to demonstrate compliance and track insights in one unified system. The top 11 benefits of using EHS software include:

1 Ability to embed the right process to meet safety regulations and visibility to monitor compliance across multiple sites.

2 A more streamlined mechanism for incident reporting/investigating while on-the-go.

3 Less use of spreadsheets, meaning one singly entry of data that minimises admin time and potential human errors.

4 Powerful business intelligence that reduces time spent on assembling reports.

5 Streamlining of data collection to one central location that securely stores all incident details and support documents.

6 Better data collection consistency through centralising information leading to quality data to make smarter decisions.

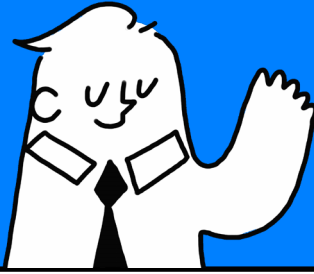
7 The ability to more effectively educate staff with interactive EHS training.

8 The capability to spot incident patterns and root causes easily leading to improved risk mitigation.

9 Staying up-to-date with changing legal obligations around EHS.

10 Boosting your company's reputation by being transparent about your environmental footprint.

11 Increased employee morale and engagement by giving employees more direct control over safety to empower them to be a positive force for change.



## EHS Manager Role

### Job Title:

Health and Safety Manager

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### Job Description:

An EHS manager is responsible for developing, implementing and overseeing the health and safety program of an organisation. Responsibilities of an EHS manager include:

- The management of health and safety systems
- Coordinating and delivering safety training
- Job hazard analysis
- Implementing controls for hazards
- Performing risk management duties
- Improving human and operational performance
- Working to reduce emissions

And so much more!

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Due to the multi-faceted nature of EHS, the role may be split across several jobs. Safety officers, for example, are more exclusively responsible for carrying out observations, inspections, and safety training. EHS managers are vital in many organisations and keep the business profitable, operational and safe.

For a more in-depth review of the role of EHS managers, have a look at [our article](#).

# How can Evotix help?

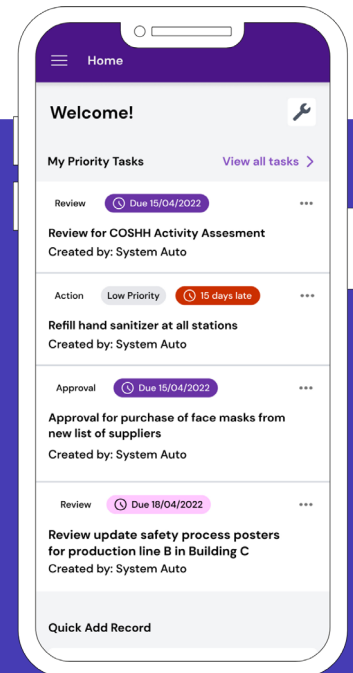
The job of an EHS professional can easily seem overwhelming, which is why EHS software solutions are excellent tools to help streamline and assist with EHS processes. Evotix provides an EHS software that is designed to be user-friendly and intuitive to help automate all your critical safety activities in one system.

Evotix offers Assure, a platform that seamlessly tracks your data to provide sights that put you ahead of the curve, boost engagement and keep your people safe. Assure offers tools to help with:

- Incident management
- Risk management
- Audits and inspection
- Training and learning
- Environment monitoring
- Contractor management
- Asset management
- Behaviour management
- AssureGO+, a mobile web app

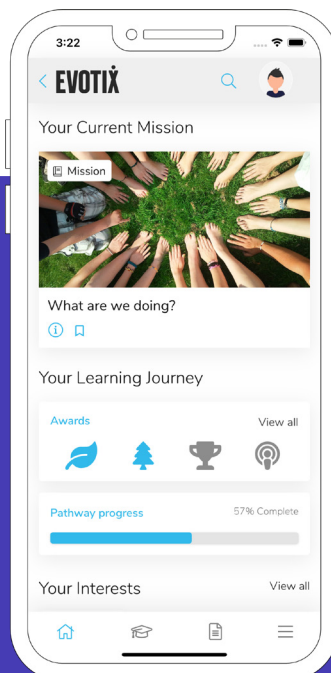
**To learn more about Assure and AssureGO+, Evotix's EHS software solution, visit our resource library for compelling case studies and additional material to help get you started!**

**Learn More**



**Click here to find out more about Evotix Learn, and support your frontline workers today!**

**Learn More**



Evotix also offers Learn, a training solution that ensures training and tracking across organisations and uses microlearning to embed learning throughout the everyday. Learn helps reach all people at your organisation, with adaptable, targeted and compelling content.

We hope this article has given you a better understanding of EHS, why it's important, and the tools you can put in place to improve your EHS processes.

Embracing EHS will not only benefit employees, who feel safer and more valued but also secure your standing as an organisation that believes in safe operations – a valuable currency in the modern world.



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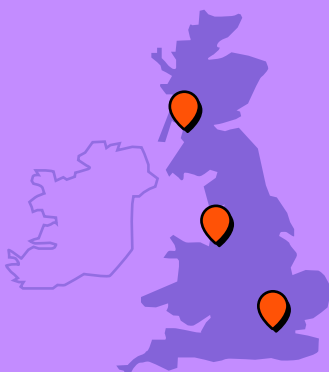


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At Evotix, our focus is simple: to help reduce the number of workplace accidents. We've been dedicated to this mission for over **25 years** and have since expanded globally.



By providing an intuitive, simple and engaging software solution for humans – we transform your workplace and empower your people.

Evotix is committed to creating an EHS journey that's more than just a checkbox. We proactively solve your organization's EHS challenges to create a safer and smarter future.

We know that behind every accident, there is a name and a family – which is why we're passionate about making them a thing of the past.

Want to find out more?

[Visit evotix.com](https://evotix.com)



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