

A S I S I N T E R N A T I O N A L

**Organizational Resilience:
Security, Preparedness, and Continuity
Management Systems—Requirements with
Guidance for Use**

ASIS SPC.1-2009

**AMERICAN NATIONAL
STANDARD**



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ASIS SPC.1-2009, ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE STANDARD

ASIS SPC.1-2009

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ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE: SECURITY, PREPAREDNESS, AND CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS – REQUIREMENTS WITH GUIDANCE FOR USE

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American National Standards Institute, Inc.

Abstract

A comprehensive management systems approach for security, preparedness, response, mitigation, business/operational continuity, and recovery for disruptive incidents resulting in an emergency, crisis, or disaster.

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The ASIS International *Organizational Resilience: Security, Preparedness and Continuity Management Systems Standard* incorporates the guidance provided in the ASIS International *Business Continuity Guideline: A Practical Approach for Emergency Preparedness, Crisis Management, and Disaster Recovery, 2005*. For additional information, the *Business Continuity Guideline* should be consulted. This best practices standard provides generic auditable criteria and informative guidance on prevention, preparedness (readiness), mitigation, response, continuity, and recovery from disruptive incidents with a potential to escalate into an emergency, crisis, or disaster.

Suggestions for improvement of this document are welcome. They should be sent to ASIS International, 1625 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-2818, USA.

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ASIS SPC.1-2009, ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE STANDARD

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS V

TABLE OF FIGURES..... VI

TABLE OF TABLES VI

0 INTRODUCTIONVII

 0.1 GENERAL VII

 0.2 PROCESS APPROACH..... VII

1 SCOPE..... 1

2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES 2

 GENERAL REFERENCE 2

 PARALLEL OR INTEGRATED APPLICATION OF A NUMBER OF SYSTEMS 2

3 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS 3

4 ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE (OR) MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS 4

 4.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS 4

 4.1.1 *Scope of OR Management System* 5

 4.2 ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE (OR) MANAGEMENT POLICY..... 5

 4.2.1 *Policy statement*..... 6

 4.2.2 *Management Commitment*..... 6

 4.3 PLANNING 7

 4.3.1 *Risk Assessment and Impact Analysis*..... 7

 4.3.2 *Legal and Other Requirements*..... 7

 4.3.3 *Objectives, Targets, and Program(s)* 8

 4.4 IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION..... 9

 4.4.1 *Resources, Roles, Responsibility, and Authority* 9

 4.4.2 *Competence, Training, and Awareness* 10

 4.4.3 *Communication and Warning* 10

 4.4.4 *Documentation*..... 11

 4.4.5 *Control of Documents*..... 11

 4.4.6 *Operational Control*..... 12

 4.4.7 *Incident Prevention, Preparedness, and Response* 12

 4.5 CHECKING (EVALUATION) 14

 4.5.1 *Monitoring and Measurement* 14

 4.5.2 *Evaluation of Compliance and System Performance* 14

 4.5.2.1 *Evaluation of Compliance*..... 14

 4.5.2.2 *Exercises and Testing*..... 14

 4.5.3 *Nonconformity, Corrective Action, and Preventive Action* 15

 4.5.4 *Control of Records* 15

 4.5.5 *Internal Audits*..... 15

 4.6 MANAGEMENT REVIEW 16

 4.6.1 *General*..... 16

 4.6.2 *Review Input*..... 16

 4.6.3 *Review Output*..... 17

 4.6.4 *Maintenance* 17

 4.6.5 *Continual Improvement*..... 17

A GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF THE STANDARD18

 A.0 INTRODUCTION 18

 A.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS..... 20

 A.2 ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE (OR) MANAGEMENT POLICY 21

ASIS SPC.1-2009, ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE STANDARD

| | |
|---|-----------|
| A.3 PLANNING | 22 |
| A.3.1 Risk Assessment and Impact Analysis | 22 |
| A.3.2 Legal and Other Requirements..... | 24 |
| A.3.3 Objectives, Targets, and Program(s)..... | 25 |
| A.4 IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION (TACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION) | 26 |
| A.4.1 Resources, Roles, Responsibility, and Authority | 26 |
| A.4.2 Competence, Training, and Awareness..... | 27 |
| A.4.3 Communication and Warning | 28 |
| A.4.4 Documentation | 29 |
| A.4.5 Control of Documents | 30 |
| A.4.6 Operational Control | 30 |
| A.4.7 Incident Prevention, Preparedness, and Response..... | 30 |
| A.5 CHECKING..... | 36 |
| A.5.1 Monitoring and Measurement..... | 36 |
| A.5.2 Evaluation of Compliance and System Performance..... | 36 |
| A.5.2.1 Evaluation of Compliance..... | 36 |
| A.5.2.2 Exercises and Testing | 36 |
| A.5.3 Nonconformity, Corrective Action, and Preventive Action | 37 |
| A.5.4 Control of Records..... | 38 |
| A.5.5 Internal Audit | 38 |
| A.6 MANAGEMENT REVIEW | 39 |
| B COMPATIBILITY WITH OTHER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS | 41 |
| C TERMINOLOGY CONVENTIONS | 44 |
| D GLOSSARY | 45 |
| E QUALIFICATIONS..... | 51 |
| F BIBLIOGRAPHY..... | 53 |
| F.1 ASIS PUBLICATIONS..... | 53 |
| F.2 ISO STANDARDS PUBLICATIONS | 53 |

TABLE OF FIGURES

| | |
|--|------|
| FIGURE 1: PLAN-DO-CHECK-ACT MODEL..... | VIII |
| FIGURE 2: ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE (OR) MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FLOW DIAGRAM..... | 4 |

TABLE OF TABLES

| | |
|---|----|
| TABLE 1: CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN ISO 9001:2000, ISO 14001:2004, ISO 27001:2005, AND THIS STANDARD OF BEST PRACTICES..... | 42 |
| TABLE 2: VERBAL FORMS FOR THE EXPRESSION OF PROVISIONS..... | 44 |

0 INTRODUCTION

0.1 General

This management system *Standard* (referred to as the “*Standard*”) has applicability in the private, not-for-profit, non-governmental, and public sector environments. It is a management framework for action planning and decision making needed to anticipate, prevent if possible, and prepare for and respond to a disruptive incident (emergency, crisis, or disaster). It enhances an organization’s capacity to manage and survive the event, and take all appropriate actions to help ensure the organization’s continued viability. Regardless of the organization, its leadership has a duty to stakeholders to plan for its survival. The body of this document provides generic auditable criteria to establish, check, maintain, and improve a management system to enhance prevention, preparedness (readiness), mitigation, response, continuity, and recovery from disruptive incidents.

This *Standard* is designed so that it can be integrated with quality, safety, environmental, information security, risk, and other management systems within an organization. A suitably designed management system can thus satisfy the requirements of all these standards (see Annex B). Organizations that have adopted a process approach to management systems (e.g., according to ISO 9001:2000, ISO 14001:2004, and/or ISO/IEC 27001:2005) may be able to use their existing management system as a foundation for the organizational resilience (OR) management system as prescribed in this *Standard*.

0.2 Process Approach

The management systems approach encourages organizations to analyze organizational and stakeholder requirements and define processes that contribute to success. A management system can provide the framework for continual improvement to increase the probability of enhancing security, preparedness, response, continuity, and resilience. It provides confidence to the organization and its customers that the organization is able to provide a safe and secure environment which fulfills organizational and stakeholder requirements.

This *Standard* adopts a *process approach* for establishing, implementing, operating, monitoring, reviewing, maintaining, and improving an organization's organizational resilience (OR) management system. An organization needs to identify and manage many activities in order to function effectively. Any activity using resources and managed in order to enable the transformation of inputs into outputs can be considered to be a process. Often the output from one process directly forms the input to the next process.

The application of a system of processes within an organization, together with the identification and interactions of these processes and their management, can be referred to as a “process approach”.

The process approach for OR management presented in this *Standard* encourages its users to emphasize the importance of:

ASIS SPC.1-2009, ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE STANDARD

- a) Understanding an organization's risk, security, preparedness, response, continuity, and recovery requirements;
- b) Establishing a policy and objectives to manage risks;
- c) Implementing and operating controls to manage an organization's risks within the context of the organization's mission;
- d) Monitoring and reviewing the performance and effectiveness of the OR management system; and
- e) Continual improvement based on objective measurement.

This *Standard* adopts the "Plan-Do-Check-Act" (PDCA) model, which is applied to structure the OR management system processes. The PDCA model is sometimes referred to as the APCI (Assess-Protect-Confirm-Improve) Model. Figure 1 illustrates how an OR management system takes as input the OR management requirements and expectations of the interested parties and through the necessary actions and processes produces risk management outcomes that meet those requirements and expectations. Figure 1 also illustrates the links in the processes presented in clause 4.

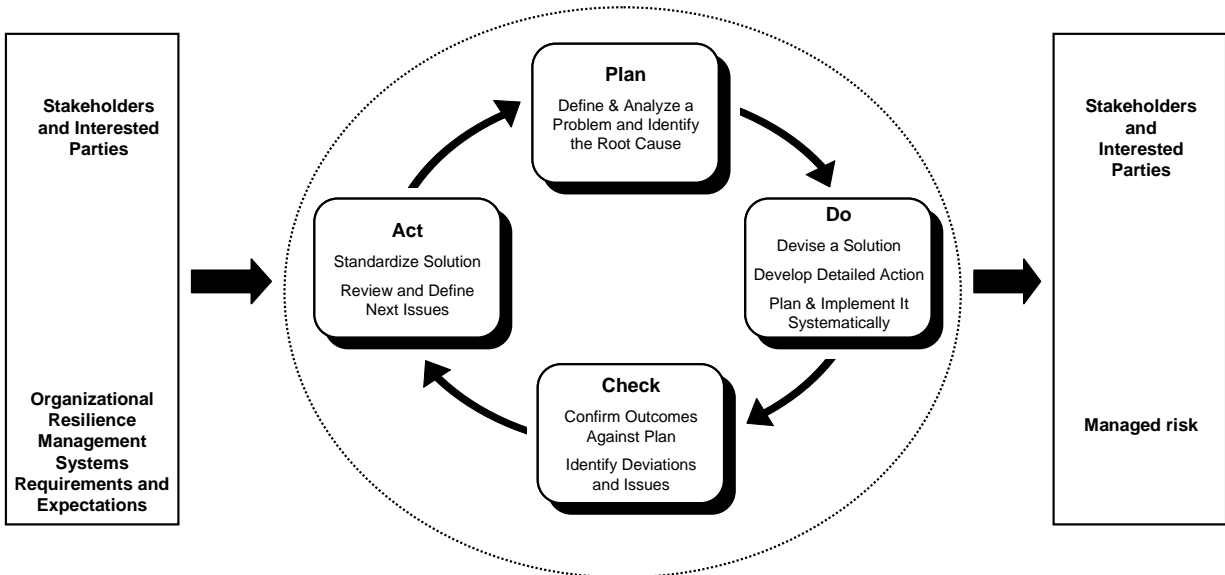


Figure 1: Plan-Do-Check-Act Model

ASIS SPC.1-2009, ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE STANDARD

| | |
|--|--|
| Plan (establish the management system) | Establish management system policy, objectives, processes, and procedures relevant to managing risk and improving security, incident preparedness, response, continuity, and recovery and to deliver results in accordance with an organization's overall policies and objectives. |
| Do (implement and operate the management system) | Implement and operate the management system policy, controls, processes, and procedures. |
| Check (monitor and review the management system) | Assess and measure process performance against management system policy, objectives, and practical experience and report the results to management for review. |
| Act (maintain and improve the management system) | Take corrective and preventive actions, based on the results of the internal management system audit and management review, to achieve continual improvement of the management system. |

Compliance with this *Standard* can be verified by an auditing process that is compatible and consistent with the methodology of ISO 9001:2000, ISO 14001:2004, and/or ISO/IEC 27001:2005, and the PDCA Model.

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Organizational Resilience: Security, Preparedness, and Continuity Management Systems – Requirements with Guidance for Use

1. SCOPE

This *Standard* specifies requirements for an organizational resilience (OR) management system to enable an organization to develop and implement policies, objectives, and programs taking into account legal requirements and other requirements to which the organization subscribes, information about significant hazards and threats that may have an impact on it (and its stakeholders'), and protection of *critical assets* (physical, intangible, environmental, and human). This *Standard* applies to risks and/or their impacts that the organization identifies as those it can control, influence, or reduce. It does not itself state specific performance criteria.

This *Standard* is applicable to any organization that wishes to:

- a) Establish, implement, maintain, and improve an OR management system;
- b) Assure itself of its conformity with its stated OR management policy;
- c) Demonstrate conformity with this *Standard* by:
 - i. Making a self-determination and self-declaration; or
 - ii. Seeking confirmation of its conformance by parties having an interest in the organization (such as customers); or
 - iii. Seeking confirmation of its self-declaration by a party external to the organization; or
 - iv. Seeking certification/registration of its OR management system by an external organization.

All the requirements in this *Standard* are intended to be incorporated into any type of organization's OR management system. It provides all the elements required to integrate management, technology, facilities, processes, and people into the resilience culture, risk management, and OR management system of an organization. The extent of the application will depend on factors such as the risk tolerance and policy of the organization; the nature of its activities, products, and services; and the location where, and the conditions in which, it functions.

This *Standard* provides generic requirements as a framework, applicable to all types of organizations (or parts thereof) regardless of size and nature of operation. It provides guidance for organizations to develop their own specific performance criteria, enabling the organization to tailor and implement an OR management system appropriate to its needs and those of its stakeholders.