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# Health & Safety Gold Approval Criteria

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These approval criteria are to be read in conjunction with the NSI Regulations.  
No company may hold out or claim to meet the H&S Gold approval criteria, other than by virtue of holding H&S Gold approval.

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## 1 Scope and introduction

This document lists the criteria for H&S Gold approval.

The criteria apply to H&S Gold approved companies and to companies applying for H&S Gold approval.

Definitions are as stated in the NSI Regulations and the BS OHSAS 18001 / ISO 45001 standard (as applicable).

In this document, text under the columns headed **Criterion** are criteria for approval.

Text under the columns headed **Guideline** are guidelines for assessing compliance with the stated criteria. Nevertheless, we reserve a right to refuse approval if you do not meet the guidelines or to end your approval if you do not meet the guidelines.

## 2 Prerequisites

Criterion	Guideline
You must be approved to, or applying for, one of NSI's security & fire related Schemes in order to be eligible to apply for and hold H&S Gold approval.	None.

## 3 Repute of management

Criterion	Guideline
The people who manage, control and have principal interests in the ownership of your company must be demonstrably reputable and of good standing. During the application process and at any time subsequent to approval being issued, we may ask specific individuals within your organisation to provide, through completion of NSI personal data forms and / or other methods, relevant personal information, evidence of character and repute, references, guarantors and so on, to our satisfaction.	When we are assessing whether a company meets this criterion, we can take into account all the information we have about the people concerned. The mere absence of information against a person is not necessarily enough. We can refuse to approve a company if we are not satisfied that we have the necessary positive evidence of repute and good character. Similarly, if we are not satisfied, we can end approval or set a condition (for example a condition that your approval can only continue if you remove a named individual from office).

## 4 Finance

Criterion	Guideline
<p>We can withhold approval or end approval if we have reason to believe that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• your company does not have sufficient financial stability to be able to trade;</li> <li>• the financial affairs of your company are not being (or have not been) carried on in a responsible and prudent manner; or</li> <li>• your company is not trading lawfully, meeting its just debts and other financial obligations.</li> </ul>	<p>We usually get a report from a credit reference agency. We may view public records such as statutory accounts and county court judgments. To help us form a clear picture, we may ask you to send us financial information such as annual accounts, monthly management accounts and forward financial plans (projections).</p> <p>If you have been trading for less than two years we usually ask you to submit evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) financial backing;</li> <li>(b) organisational experience (covering the business management and financial aspects of the company and defining the responsibilities, authority and inter-relation of management personnel); and</li> <li>(c) a two-year forward business plan (financial plan).</li> </ul> <p>In each case the evidence will need to be appropriate to the size of the company and the type of work undertaken.</p>

## 5 Legal & other obligations

Criterion	Guideline
<p>You must inform NSI, without delay, of the occurrence of a serious H&amp;S incident or breach of relevant regulation necessitating the involvement of the competent regulatory authority.</p>	<p>Refer to the competent regulatory authority for guidance on reportable H&amp;S incidents.</p> <p>There are many ways you may become aware of a breach of regulation. For example, you may become aware through internal audit, site inspection, day to day operations, internal notification from staff or external notifications from clients, the public, or regulators.</p>

## 6 Compliance with standards, codes of practice and so on

Criterion	Guideline
<p>You must meet the requirements of BS OHSAS 18001 or ISO 45001 (as applicable).            You must make sure that all your activities are carried out in accordance with the NSI regulations and H&amp;S Gold Approval Criteria.</p>	<p>None.</p>